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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
EDITORIALS,	1
CATALOGUE FOR ADVANCED COLLECTORS,—United States Envelopes,	3
LEADING ENGLISH PHILATELISTS,—Hastings E. Wright,—By Edward J. Nankivell,	14
THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES,—by John N. Luff,	18
NOTES ON COUNTERFEITS OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF VALPARAISO, CHILE, POSTAGE DUE STAMPS,—by Gust. Wiedmann,	27
OUR ENGLISH LETTER,—by Edward J. Nankivell,	31
MAILS IN OUR CONQUERED LANDS,	38
THE NEW CALEDONIA IOC OF 1860,—by Theodor Haas,	40
THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC EXHIBITION,	43
PUERTO RICO,—by J. M. Andreini,	46
STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE FOR 1899,—Part I, Stamps of the British Empire,	47
THE IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAL UNION,	48
AUCTION SALES,	48
NOTES,	49
CHRONICLE,	53
NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY,	57
THE COLLECTORS' CLUB,	58
STATEN ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY,	59
BIRMINGHAM EXHIBITION,	59





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HENRY L. CALMAN, Editor.

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The Outlook. **W**E are fortunate in being able to begin the new year with the positive declaration that the hard times in the stamp business are over. There can be no question that the past eighteen months have been marked by a period of depression, which in some instances amounted to positive demoralization. Many of our competitors, and even to a greater degree a large number of speculators, have felt impelled to sell their stamps at any price that they could realize, and the throwing of a large amount of material upon a market whose absorptive capacity had been reduced resulted, naturally, in a great fall in prices. Fancy discounts of all kinds were offered, both here and abroad, and many collectors began to fear that the bottom had dropped out of postage stamps. We have consistently maintained our opinion that this condition of things, which existed up to a few weeks ago, was merely a temporary one, and that a gradual improvement in general business would soon thereafter make itself felt in our trade as well.

Our predictions have been thoroughly verified, and the day of large discounts is already a thing of the past. It may be that some frightened collector or some small dealer is still selling stamps at 40 and 50 per cent. discount from the current catalogue quotations, but such offerings no longer consist of good material, hence they can have no influence on the stamp market in general. The new International Album, which we placed on the market in November, has found a larger sale than any previous edition, and the album trade is the best criterion of the general interest in postage stamps. Our reports from all over the country indicate that the younger element is deserting the bicycle and the various other forms of sport which had engrossed its attention for the past three years, and is flocking back to the old interests, one of the most important of which was stamp collecting.

We predict that within twelve months the stamp business will be brisker and more prosperous than at any time in its past history, and we can only express the hope that the improvement in our line will not again lead to such a period of wild speculation as was witnessed a few years ago. Such speculation always results in an inordinate inflation of prices during the term of its existence, to be followed, naturally, by a corresponding depression, as soon as the speculator withdraws from the buying field. The law of supply and demand will cause a gradual increase in the value of stamps and as long as this law is allowed to operate naturally the business will remain on a sound basis, inspiring confidence in collector, speculator and dealer.

Business Principles as Applied to the Stamp Business.

somewhere in the world, has departed for parts unknown, leaving in his train a long list of bitten creditors. The amounts in which such persons, at times, are indebted, to individual dealers or collectors are simply astounding; if ordinary business caution were adopted in the opening of accounts, such unfortunate occurrences would be extremely rare.

It appears that, in order to obtain stamps to the value of thousands of dollars, it is only necessary to insert a few advertisements in stamp papers, and to assume the appearance of solidity. A certain association of men, doing business in the western hemisphere under a firm name, has during the past year, flooded the world with advertisements on a scale which would be justified only by an establishment ranking with the largest in the world.

As far as we know, not a single person who has trusted the parties we have in mind with any large amounts, has as yet received a remittance, but many are anxiously awaiting one with each succeeding mail. The reports of sales made are extremely satisfactory, and if the statements which are published are only half true, a most profitable field for stamp dealers has been neglected for a great many years.

The practice of this association is to ask for large consignments of rare stamps, on approval, and to offer to supply all kinds of material at very cheap rates, against remittances in advance. Applications made by the largest stamp firms in the world, for shipments, are uniformly responded to with a request for remittance in advance, whereas the same parties have no hesitation in asking for large shipments from these same firms, without themselves indulging in such remittances or deposits on account. Up to this writing we have no information that would justify us in making any statements derogatory to the character of the association in question, but we think it our duty to warn the fraternity against too great liberality in granting credits.

We cannot conclude our remarks without deprecating the practice which obtains so generally among the smaller stamp journals in the United States, of puffing up and booming any firm which figures liberally in their pages as an advertiser. Readers naturally suppose that such recommendations are based upon intimate knowledge of character and standing, whereas they generally depend upon nothing but the size of the advertising bill.

United States Periodical Stamps.

For some time it has been rumored that our government intends to place the remainders of the United States Periodical stamps on sale at a nominal price per set. From one point of view it might be considered advantageous for collectors to enjoy the chance of obtaining these stamps at a low figure, but an impartial review of the situation leads us to the conclusion that such action on the part of our government would smack too much of the nature of speculation, and that it would be wiser if the entire remainders were destroyed. One fortunate circumstance, however, in connection with their probable sale is that but few collectors have purchased these stamps at high prices, as the supplies that have come on the market have been extremely limited. Hence, the loss entailed by a reduced price at which the sets might be sold would fall on a limited number only.

A Catalogue for Advanced Collectors

—OF—

POSTAGE STAMPS, STAMPED ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.

COMPILED FROM THE MOST RECENT AUTHORITIES AND INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

BY

HENRY COLLIN AND HENRY L. CALMAN.

(Continued.)

UNITED STATES.—Continued.

ENVELOPES.—Continued.

(By GEORGE L. TOPPAN.)

No. N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1894.	Four cents, carmine.		One Die.		Three Knives.	*	
5604	(1368)	88	White	61	I (8)	F	R Specimen
5605	(1369)	88	Amber	50	D (5)	F	R Specimen
5606	(1370)	88	Amber	56	F (9)	F	R Specimen
5607	(1371)	88	Amber Manila	50	Ddd (5)	H	R Specimen
1894.	Five cents, blue.		One Die.		One Knife.		
5608	(1372)	89	White	49	C (4½)	F	R Specimen

FIFTEENTH SERIES.

Dies.

The dies found in this issue, which is commonly known either as the "Purcell" or "Holyoke" series, are four in number, i.e., numbers, 83, 86, 88 and 94.

DIE 94. FIVE CENTS. 1894. This is a copy of die 89 and is easily distinguished from it by the fact that there is no neck to

the bust of General Grant, the lines of the chin and the bust meeting at a short angle. The front end of the bust is also wider than in die 89; the bottom is flatter; the back more rounded and further away from the frame line; the hair so arranged that a lock hangs over the forehead; and the eyebrow is less prominent.



L

Watermarks.

The watermarks, two in number, are L and M. The last has already been described.

WATERMARK L. 1894. It consists of large, thin and rather fancy letters "U. S." In the curve of the "U" are small capital letters "P O D," in the upper curve of the "S" is the figure "9" and in the lower curve the figure "4."

There are several minor varieties of this watermark to be found in this and the next series. These varieties depend upon the size and shape of the various letters and figures, but are hardly of enough consequence to be worthy of description.

Knives.

These are ten in number, *i.e.*, numbers 60, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72 and 73. Only knife 60 has been described, the others are:

KNIFE 65. NOTE SIZE. No. 1. 1894. This is a copy of knife 46 and of the same size. It is easily distinguished from it as it is folded just the reverse, that is the left flap is folded over the right one. The upper flap is also a trifle more pointed; the right flap is longer, measuring about 74 mm. or 7 mm. more than knife 46, and narrower, while the left flap is shorter by about 5 mm., and about as much broader.

KNIFE 66. FULL LETTER SIZE. No. 2. 1894. A copy of knife 48 and of the same size. The left flap is folded over the right. The loose, or upper flap is slightly more concaved on its edges, thus making its point a trifle smaller. The side flaps differ as noted under knife 65, though, of course the measurements will not apply here.

KNIFE 67. COMMERCIAL SIZE. No. 3. 1894. A copy of knife 49 and of the same size. Left flap folded over the right. The upper flap curves more gradually from the corners upward. Other differences about as in die 66, except that here the end of the left flap is almost square instead of round as in knife 49.

KNIFE 68. EXTRA LETTER SIZE. No. 5. 1894. A copy of knife 50 and of the same size, from which it differs about as does knife 66 from knife 48.

KNIFE 69. OFFICIAL SIZE. No. 7. 1894. A copy of knife 51 and of the same size. The side flaps are folded over the bottom flap. They are also about 5 mm. longer, their points are narrower and their upper edges straighter. The upper flap is 6 mm. shorter, measuring only 44 mm. from upper fold of envelope to point, against 50 mm. for knife 51.

KNIFE 70. SMALL BARONIAL SIZE. No. 10. 1894. A copy of knife 54 and of the same size. The left flap is folded over the right; it is shorter than the right

and its end is more square than that of knife 54.

KNIFE 71. LARGE BARONIAL SIZE. No. 11. 1894. A copy of knife 58 and of the same size. The left flap is folded over the right and the upper edges of the side flaps are not cut out at the ends, but run from the upper corners of the envelope downwards in a straight line to the point of intersection, which is about 16 mm. below the upper fold of the envelope, forming broad square ends with slightly rounded corners. As in the other knives of this series the right flap is the longer of the two.

KNIFE 72. LEGAL SIZE. No. 13. 1894. A copy of knife 56 and of the same size. The left flap is folded over the right and the right flap is the longer.

KNIFE 73. SMALL LEGAL SIZE. No. 14. 1894. A copy of knife 63 and of the same size. The left flap is folded over the right one, the right being the longer, as usual in this series. The bottom and loose flaps have slightly rounded, instead of pointed, ends, and the curves from the corners of the envelope are not quite so sharp.

Paper.

The papers found in this issue are the same as in that of 1890, *i.e.*, white, amber, oriental buff, blue, manila, and amber manila.

Shades.

Though this series was in use but a short time it is prolific in shades. In the one cent there are three quite distinct shades of blue, the first a very dark blue, similar to that of the five cent. This was followed by a pale, rather milky shade, and that, in turn, by a medium shade.

In the two cent envelopes two very pronounced shades are found, a bright yellow-green and a very dark blue-green. These are so entirely different as to merit listing separately, especially so as some envelopes are known in only one shade. There are also, of course, various intermediate shades. (*Note change from letters back to numbers to denote sizes,*)

No.	N.P.S. No.	Die	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1894. One cent, dark blue.								
5609	(1373)	83	White	66	2	L	R	
5610	(1374)	83	White	67	3	L	R	
5611	(1375)	83	White	68	5	L	R	
5612	(1376)	83	Amber	67	3	L	R	
5613	(1377)	83	Amber	68	5	L	R	
5614	(1378)	83	Manila	68	6	L	U	
1894. One cent, blue.								
5615	(1379)	83	White	66	2	L	R	
5616	(1380)	83	White	67	3	L	R	
5617	(1381)	83	White	71	11	L	R	
5618	(1382)	83	White	71	11	L	R	Milky blue
5619	(1383)	83	White	68	5	L	R	Milky blue
5620	(1384)	83	White	68	5	L	R	Milky blue
5621	(1385)	83	White	68	5	L	R	Milky blue, mis-strike
5622	(1386)	83	Amber	66	2	L	R	Milky blue
5623	(1387)	83	Amber	66	2	L	R	Milky blue
5624	(1388)	83	Amber	67	3	L	R	Milky blue
5625	(1389)	83	Amber	67	3	L	R	Milky blue
5626	(1390)	83	Amber	68	5	L	R	
5627	(1391)	83	Manila	67	3	L	R	Wove paper
5628	(1392)	83	Manila	68	6	L	U	Wove paper
5629	(1393)	83	Manila	67	3	M	R	Wove paper
5630	(1394)	83	Amber Manila	67	3	L	R	Wove paper
5631	(1395)	83	Amber Manila	67	3	L	R	Milky blue, wove paper
1894. Two cents, blue green.								
5632	(1396)	86	White	65	1	L	R	
5633	(1397)	86	White	66	2	L	R	
5634	(1398)	86	White	67	3	L	R	
5635	(1399)	86	White	68	5	L	R	
5636	(1400)	86	White	68	5	L	R	Mis-strike
5637	(1401)	86	White	69	7	L	R	
5638	(1402)	86	White	60	8	L	R	
5639	(1403)	86	White	70	10	L	R	
5640	(1404)	86	White	71	11	L	R	
5641	(1405)	86	White	72	13	L	R	
5642	(1406)	86	White	73	14	L	R	
5643	(1407)	86	Amber	66	2	L	R	
5644	(1408)	86	Amber	67	3	L	R	
5645	(1409)	86	Amber	67	3	L	R	Mis-strike
5646	(1410)	86	Amber	68	5	L	R	
5647	(1411)	86	Amber	69	7	L	R	
5648	(1412)	86	Amber	60	8	L	R	
5649	(1413)	86	Amber	73	13	L	R	
5650	(1414)	86	Oriental Buff	67	3	L	R	
5651	(1415)	86	Oriental Buff	68	5	L	R	
5652	(1416)	86	Blue	67	3	L	R	
5653	(1417)	86	Blue	68	5	L	R	
5654	(1418)	86	Manila	66	2	L	R	Wove paper
5655	(1419)	86	Amber Manila	67	3	L	R	Wove paper
5656	(1420)	86	Amber Manila	68	5	L	R	Wove paper
1894. Two cents, Yellow Green.								
5657	(1421)	86	White	65	1	L	R	
5658	(1422)	86	White	66	2	L	R	
5659	(1423)	86	White	66	2	None	R	Wove paper
5660	(1424)	86	White	67	3	L	R	
5661	(1425)	86	White	67	3	L	R	Albino
5662	(1426)	86	White	68	5	L	R	Albino
5663	(1427)	86	White	68	5	L	R	Albino
5664	(1428)	86	White	69	7	L	R	

No.	N.	P.	S.	No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
5665	(1429)	86		White	60	8	L		R		
5666	(1430)	86		White	70	10	L		R		
5667	(1431)	86		White	71	11	L		R		
5668	(1432)	86		White	72	13	L		R		
5669	(1433)	86		White	73	14	L		R		
5670	(1434)	86		Amber	66	2	L		R		
5671	(1435)	86		Amber	67	3	L		R		
5672	(1436)	86		Amber	68	5	L		R		
5673	(1437)	86		Amber	69	7	L		R		
5674	(1438)	86		Amber	60	8	L		R		
5675	(1439)	86		Amber	72	13	L		R		
5676	(1440)	86	Oriental Buff	67	3	L		R			
5677	(1441)	86	Oriental Buff	68	5	L		R			
5678	(1442)	86	Oriental Buff	69	7	L		R			
5679	(1443)	86	Blue	67	3	L		R			
5680	(1444)	86	Blue	68	5	L		R			
5681	(1445)	86	Blue	69	7	L		R			
5682	(1446)	86	Blue	72	13	L		R			
5683	(1447)	86	Manila	66	2	L		R		Wove paper	
5684	(1448)	86	Manila	68	5	L		R		Wove paper	
5685	(1449)	86	Amber Manila	66	2	L		R		Wove paper	
5686	(1450)	86	Amber Manila	67	3	L		R		Wove paper	
5687	(1451)	86	Amber Manila	68	5	L		R		Wove paper	
1894.			Four cents, scarlet.		One Die.			Two Knives.			
5688	(1452)	88	White	69	7	L		R			
5689	(1453)	88	White	60	8	L		R			
5690	(1454)	88	Amber	60	8	L		R			
1894.			Five cents, blue.		One Die.			Two Knives.			
5691	(1455)	94	White	67	3	L		R			
5692	(1456)	94	White	68	5	L		R			
5693	(1457)	94	White	68	5	L		R		Pale blue	
5694	(1458)	94	Amber	67	3	L		R			
5695	(1459)	94	Amber	68	5	L		R			
5696	(1460)	94	Amber	68	5	L		R		Wove paper	

SIXTEENTH SERIES.

Dies.

There are ten dies in this series, i.e., numbers 83, 86, 88, 89, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, and 100. The first four have been already described. The others are :

DIE 95. ONE CENT. 1895. A variety of die 83 and differing from it as follows : In die 83 the chin is pronounced and double, below it is the Adam's apple, not very pronounced and running into the collar. In this die both the double chin and the Adam's apple are very pronounced, the latter being separated from the bust, which does not appear to project so far forward, by a heavy line of color. The most noticeable point, however, is the small colorless triangle, or spur, which projects downwards from the lower part of the bust about 2 mm. from the forward end, and from which it takes its name of the "spur die."

DIE 96. ONE CENT. 1895. Also a variety of die 83. The front end of the bust is rounded rather than square with sharp

corners. This, on the lower corner, is so apparent as to fill in the space between it and the spur of die 95 and, as the lower back end of the bust projects slightly outwards and downwards it leaves a depression between it and the spur, from whence its name of the "scoop die."

DIE 97. ONE CENT. 1895. Similar to die 83. The Adam's apple is very indistinct, but, unlike all other similar dies, there is quite a pronounced nick between the chin and the slope of the bust. In other particulars it closely resembles die 96, but, between the spur and the back of the bust, there is another excrescence, rounded this time, thus forming two depressions instead of one. The lower line of the bust is, in fact, best described as wavy and irregular. It is known as the "double scoop die."

DIE 98. TWO CENTS. 1895. A variety of die 86, from which it differs only in having a small square and colorless cap upon

the top of the numeral of value immediately under the central point of the shield.

DIE 99. TWO CENTS. 1895. Similar to last except that the cap is a little to the right of the centre of the numeral.

DIE 100. TWO CENTS. 1895. A variety of die 86, from which it differs only in lacking almost the entire top frame line of the shield containing the numeral of value. All of this line that shows is a short piece at either end.

Note.—The above varieties are not described from single copies, which might be due to imperfect printing, but in every case they have proved to be constant through at least one box of envelopes.

Watermarks.

The regular watermark of this series is L, although occasional specimens with watermarks J and M are found.

No.	N.P.S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1895.								
		One cent, blue.		One Die.		Four Knives.		
5697	(1461)	83	White	48	2	L	R	
5698	(1462)	83	White	49	3	L	R	
5699	(1463)	83	White	49	3	L	R	Albino
5700	(1464)	83	White	50	5	L	R	
5701	(1465)	83	White	58	11	L	R	
5702	(1466)	83	Amber	48	2	L	R	
5703	(1467)	83	Amber	49	3	L	R	
5704	(1468)	83	Amber	50	5	L	R	
5705	(1469)	83	Blue	50	5	L	R	
5706	(1470)	83	Manila	49	3	L	R	Wove paper
5707	(1471)	83	Manila	49	3	M	R	Wove paper
5708	(1472)	83	Manila	50	6	L	U	Wove paper
5709	(1473)	83	Manila	50	6	L	U	Albino. Wove paper
5710	(1474)	83	Manila	50	6	None	U	Wove paper
5711	(1475)	83	Manila	50	6	L	U	Laid paper
5712	(1476)	83	Amber Manila	49	3	L	R	Wove paper
5713	(1477)	83	Amber Manila	49	3	L	R	Laid paper
1895.								
		One cent, blue.		One Die.		Two Knives.		
5714	(1478)	95	White	50	5	L	R	
5715	(1479)	95	Amber	50	5	L	R	
5716	(1480)	95	Manila	50	6	L	U	Laid paper
5717	(1481)	95	Amber Manila	49	3	L	R	Laid paper
1895.								
		One cent, blue.		One Die.		One Knife.		
5718	(1482)	96	White	50	5	L	R	
1895.								
		One cent, blue.		One Die.		One Knife.		
5719	(1483)	97	White	50	5	L	R	
1895.								
		Two cents, green.		One Die.		Twelve Knives.		
5720	(1484)	86	White	46	1	L	R	
5721	(1485)	86	White	46	1	L	R	Mis-strike
5722	(1486)	86	White	48	2	L	R	
5723	(1487)	86	White	49	3	L	R	
5724	(1488)	86	White	49	3	L	R	Albino.
5725	(1489)	86	White	49	3	L	R	Partial albino
5726	(1490)	86	White	62	4	L	R	

Knives.

These, twelve in number, are numbers 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 56, 58, 59, 61, 62, and 63 all of which have been described.

Paper.

The papers are the same as in the last issue. The manila and amber manila, however, are found both laid and wove. The wove manila is easily distinguished by its color, it being a browner shade than the laid paper and less highly finished. The same may be said of the amber manila. There is also a third shade of the amber manila, yellower and quite highly finished.

Shades.

The shades of the 1c and 2c vary greatly, but, as almost everything can be found in all the various shades, there seems no good reason to recognize them in the list.

No.	N.P.S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
5727	(1491)	86	White	62	4	J	R	
5728	(1492)	86	White	50	5	L	R	
5729	(1493)	86	White	50	5	L	R	Albino
5730	(1494)	86	White	50	5	L	R	Mis-strike
5731	(1495)	86	White	51	7	L	R	
5732	(1496)	86	White	59	8	L	R	
5733	(1497)	86	White	61	9	L	R	
5734	(1498)	86	White	54	10	L	R	
5735	(1499)	86	White	58	11	L	R	
5736	(1500)	86	White	58	11	L	R	Partial Albino
5737	(1501)	86	White	58	11	None	R	Wove paper
5738	(1502)	86	White	56	13	L	R	
5739	(1503)	86	White	56	13	L	R	Albino
5740	(1504)	86	White	56	13	L	R	Mis-strike
5741	(1505)	86	White	63	14	L	R	
5742	(1506)	86	White	63	14	J	R	
5743	(1507)	86	Amber	48	2	L	R	
5744	(1508)	86	Amber	49	3	L	R	
5745	(1509)	86	Amber	62	4	L	R	
5746	(1510)	86	Amber	62	4	J	R	
5747	(1511)	86	Amber	50	5	L	R	
5748	(1512)	86	Amber	51	7	L	R	
5749	(1513)	86	Amber	59	8	L	R	
5750	(1514)	86	Amber	61	9	L	R	
5751	(1515)	86	Amber	56	13	L	R	
5752	(1516)	86	Amber	63	14	L	R	
5753	(1517)	86	Amber	63	14	J	R	
5754	(1518)	86	Oriental Buff	48	2	L	R	
5755	(1519)	86	Oriental Buff	49	3	L	R	
5756	(1520)	86	Oriental Buff	49	3	L	R	Albino
5757	(1521)	86	Oriental Buff	50	5	L	R	
5758	(1522)	86	Oriental Buff	51	7	L	R	
5759	(1523)	86	Oriental buff	56	13	L	R	
5760	(1524)	86	Blue	48	2	L	R	
5761	(1525)	86	Blue	49	3	L	R	
5762	(1526)	86	Blue	50	5	L	R	
5763	(1527)	86	Blue	51	7	L	R	
5764	(1528)	86	Blue	56	13	L	R	
5765	(1529)	86	Manila	48	2	L	R	Wove paper
5766	(1530)	86	Manila	48	2	L	R	Laid paper
5767	(1531)	86	Manila	49	3	L	R	Wove paper
5768	(1532)	86	Manila	49	3	M	R	Wove paper
5769	(1533)	86	Manila	49	3	L	R	Laid paper
5770	(1534)	86	Manila	50	5	L	R	Wove paper
5771	(1535)	86	Manila	50	5	L	R	Laid paper
5772	(1536)	86	Amber Manila	48	2	L	R	Wove paper
5773	(1537)	86	Amber Manila	48	2	L	R	Laid paper
5774	(1538)	86	Amber Manila	49	3	L	R	Wove paper
5775	(1539)	86	Amber Manila	49	3	L	R	Laid paper
5776	(1540)	86	Amber Manila	50	5	L	R	Wove paper
5777	(1541)	86	Amber Manila	50	5	L	R	Laid paper

1895. Two cents, green. One Die. Two Knives.

5778	(1542)	98	White	48	2	L	R
5779	(1543)	98	White	50	5	L	R
5780	(1544)	98	Oriental buff	48	2	L	R
5781	(1545)	98	Manila	48	2	L	R
5782	(1546)	98	Amber Manila	48	2	L	R

1895. Two cents, green. One Die. One Knife.

5783	(1547)	99	White	50	5	L	R
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1895. Two cents, green. One Die. One Knife.

5784	(1548)	100	White	50	5	L	R
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No.	N.P.S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1895. Four cents, carmine.				One Die.			Three Knives.	
5785	(1549)	88	White	51	7	L	R	
5786	(1550)	88	White	59	8	L	R	
5787	(1551)	88	White	61	9	L	R	
5788	(1552)	88	Amber	51	7	L	R	
5789	(1553)	88	Amber	59	8	L	R	
5790	(1554)	88	Amber	59	8	L	R	Claret
5791	(1555)	88	Amber	61	9	L	R	
1895. Five cents, blue.				One Die.			Two Knives.	
5792	(1556)	89	White	49	3	L	R	
5793	(1557)	89	White	50	5	L	R	
3794	(1558)	89	Amber	49	3	L	R	
5795	(1559)	89	Amber	50	5	L	R	

OFFICIAL STAMPED ENVELOPES,

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

First, or Reay, Series.

Dies.

These are three in number, their values being two, three and six cents.

DIE 201. TWO CENTS. 1873. Design an oval measuring 26x30 mm. A central oval of solid color containing a large numeral of value, measuring 8½ mm. high, without color. Above this numeral the word "OFFICIAL," below it "STAMP," in curved lines of colorless block capitals. Frame of colorless outer and inner line between which is a band of solid color, ornamented with two rows of colorless circles and two fine colorless lines. Above is a colored label with concaved ends inscribed "POST OFFICE DEPT.", below, in a similar label "TWO CENTS," all in colorless ordinary capitals. At each side are engine turned ornaments and a circle; that on the left contains the letter "U," that on the right the letter "S," both in large,

colorless Roman capitals upon a ground of solid color. All of the colorless parts are embossed.

DIE 202. THREE CENTS. 1873. Similar to die 201 with value changed to "THREE CENTS."

DIE 203. SIX CENTS. 1873. Similar to die 201 with value changed to "SIX CENTS."

Note.—It has been deemed advisable to add 100 to the numbers of all dies of the official stamps so as to allow for any additions to dies of the regular issues, thus N.P.S. die 101 equals our die 201, etc.

Watermark.

But one watermark, B, is found in this series.

Knives.

Seven knives are found, i. e., numbers 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, and 36. All have been previously described.

Paper.

The paper, officially known as canary, varies considerably in color, running from a pale yellow to a slightly brownish orange. The paler shades are highly finished, but the last is quite rough and has little finish; it is also heavier than the lighter colors.

No.	N.P.S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1878. Two cents, black.				One Die.		Four Knives.		
6001	(2501)	201	Canary	29	3	B	S	
6002	(2501a)	201	Canary 3d qual.	29	3	B	S	
6003	(2502)	201	Canary	30	3	B	S	
6004	(2503)	201	Canary	32	5	B	S	
6005	(2504)	201	Canary	34	7	B	S	
6006	(2504a)	201	Canary	34	7	None	S	Laid paper.

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
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1878. Three cents, black. One Die. Seven Knives.

6007	(2505)	202	Canary	28	3	B	S
6008	(2506)	202	Canary	29	3	B	S
6009	(2507)	202	Canary	30	3	B	S
6010	(2508)	202	Canary	32	5	B	S
6011	(2509)	202	Canary	34	7	B	S
6012	(2509a)	202	Canary	35	7	B	S
6013	(2510)	202	Canary	36	8	B	S

1878. Six cents, black. One Die. Five Knives.

6014	(2511)	203	Canary	29	3	B	S Specimen
6015	(2512)	203	Canary	32	5	B	S
6016	(2513)	203	Canary	34	7	B	S
6017	(2513a)	203	Canary	35	7	B	S
6018	(2514)	203	Canary	36	8	B	S

Note.—As the numbers of the regular issues have already exceeded 1501, the number with which the N. P. S. list commences to list the Post Office Department envelopes, It has been deemed advisable to add an even 1000 to their numbers, commencing with 2501. This will be adhered to with the Postal Service envelopes, which will commence with 2601, the War Dept. envelopes, which will commence with 2701 and the wrappers, which will commence with 2901.

SECOND, OR PLIMPTON, SERIES.

Dies.

Watermarks.

DIE 204. TWO CENTS. 1874. A copy of die 201 from which it is easily distinguished by the larger numeral, which is 9½ mm. high, the larger letters in the central, oval the "P" of "STAMP" being especially noticeable, and "S" on the right side, which is thinner.

DIE 205. THREE CENTS. 1874. Similar to die 204 with value changed to "THREE CENTS."

DIE 206. SIX CENTS. 1874. Similar to die 204 with value changed to "SIX CENTS."

Three watermarks, B, D and E, are found in this series. They have all been previously described.

Knives.

Eleven knives, all of which have already been described, are to be found in this series. They are numbers 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 34, 36, 48, 50, 51 and 52.

Paper.

Besides the Canary, which varies as in the first series, we now find white, amber and blue.

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
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1874, Nov., to 1876, Oct. Two cents, black. One Die. Six Knives.

6019	(2515)	204	Canary	40	3	B	S
6020	(2516)	204	Canary	41	3	B	S
6021	(2517)	204	Canary	42	5	B	S
6022	(2518)	204	Canary	43	5	B	S
6023	(2519)	204	Canary	34	7	B	S
6024	(2520)	204	Canary	36	8	B	S

1874, Nov., to 1876, Oct. Three cents, black. One Die. Seven Knives.

6025	(2521)	205	Canary	39	3	B	S
6026	(2522)	205	Canary	40	3	B	S
6027	(2523)	205	Canary	41	3	B	S
6028	(2524)	205	Canary	42	5	B	S
6029	(2525)	205	Canary	43	5	B	S
6030	(2526)	205	Canary	34	7	B	S
6031	(2527)	205	Canary	36	8	B	S
6032	(2528)	205	Blue	34	7	B	S

1875. Three cents, blue. One Die. Three Knives.

6033	(2529)	205	Blue	41	3	B	S
6034	(2530)	205	Blue	43	5	B	S
6035	(2531)	205	Blue	34	7	B	S

No.	N.	P.	S.	No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1874, Nov., to 1876, Oct. Six cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6036	(2532)	206	Canary	34	7	B			S		
6037	(2533)	206	Canary	36	8	B			S		
1876. Two cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6038	(2534)	204	Canary	41	3	B			R		
6039	(2535)	204	Canary	43	5	B			R		
6040	(2536)	204	White	43	5	B			R		
1876. Three cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6041	(2537)	205	Canary	41	3	B			R		
6042	(2538)	205	Canary	43	5	B			R		
6043	(3539)	205	White	43	5	B			R		
6044	(2540)	205	Amber	43	5	B			R		
6045	(2541)	205	Amber	43	5	None			R	Laid paper	
6046	(2542)	205	Blue	41	3	B			R		
1876. Three cents, blue. One Die. Two Knives.											
6047	(2543)	205	Blue	41	3	B			R		
6048	(2544)	205	Blue	43	5	B			R		
1876. Six cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6049	(2545)	206	Canary	41	3	B			R		
6050	(2546)	206	Canary	43	5	B			R		
1877. Two cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6051	(2547)	204	Canary	41	3	D			R		
6052	(2548)	204	Canary	37	5	D			R		
1877. Three cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6053	(2549)	205	Canary	41	3	D			R		
6054	(2550)	205	Canary	43	5	D			R		
6055	(2554a)	205	Canary	43	5	D			R	Albino	
6056	(2551)	205	Canary 3d qual.	43	5	D			R		
6057	(2552)	205	Amber	43	5	D			R		
1877. Six cents, black. One Die. Two Knives.											
6058	(2553)	206	Canary	34	7	D			R		
6059	(2554)	206	Canary	36	8	D			S		
1878. Two cents, black. One Die. Three Knives.											
6060	(2555)	204	Canary	48	3	B			R		
6061	(2556)	204	Canary	50	5	B			R		
6062	(2557)	204	Canary	51	7	B			S		
6063	(2558)	204	Canary	51	7	B			R		
6064	(2559)	204	Canary	51	7	D			S		
6065	(2560)	204	Canary	51	7	D			R		
6066	(2561)	204	White	50	5	D			R		
1878. Three cents, black. One Die. Four Knives.											
6067	(2562)	205	Canary	48	3	B			R		
6068	(2563)	205	Canary	50	5	B			R		
6069	(2563a)	205	Canary	50	5	None			R	Laid paper	
6070	(2563b)	205	Canary	50	5	D			R		
6071	(2564)	205	Canary	51	7	B			S		
6072	(2565)	205	Canary	51	7	B			R		
6073	(2566)	205	Canary	51	7	D			S		
6074	(2567)	205	Canary	51	7	D			R		
6075	(2568)	205	Canary	51	7	None			R	Laid Paper	
6076	(2569)	205	Canary 3d qual.	46	3	B			R		
6077	(2570)	205	Amber	50	5	B			R		

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1878.	Six cents, black.	One Die.	Four Knives.					
6078	(2571)	206	Canary	48	3	B	R	
6079	(2572)	206	Canary	50	5	B	R	
6080	(2573)	206	Canary	51	7	B	S	
6081	(2574)	206	Canary	51	7	B	R	
6082	(2575)	206	Canary	51	7	D	S	
6083	(2576)	206	Canary	51	7	D	R	
6084	(2577)	206	Canary	52	8	B	S	
1879.	Two cents, black.	One Die.	Two Knives.					
6085	(2578)	204	Canary	48	3	E	R	
6086	(2579)	204	Canary	50	5	E	R	
1879.	Three cents, black.	One Die.	Three Knives.					
6087	(2580)	205	Canary	48	3	E	R	
6088	(2581)	205	Canary	50	5	E	R	
6089	(2582)	205	Canary	51	7	E	R	
6090	(2583)	205	White	50	5	E	R	
6091	(2584)	205	Amber	50	5	E	R	
1879.	Six cents, black.	One Die.	Three Knives.					
6092	(2585)	206	Canary	51	7	E	R	Specimen
6093	(2586)	206	Canary	52	8	E	S	
6094	(2387)	206	White	50	5	E	R	

POSTAL SERVICE ENVELOPES.

Dies.

DIE 207. NO VALUE. 1877. A horizontal oval of color measuring about 38 by 33 mm., and framed by a colorless line ornamented outside with loops. Horizontally across the centre is a broad, colorless label, outlined with lines of color, inscribed "POSTAL SERVICE" in large colored Roman capitals. Above, in large, colorless Roman capitals, closely following the outline of the frame, "UNITED;" below, in a similar manner, "STATES." There is a foliated ornament at either end of these inscriptions, between them and the horizontal label. The centre, between the horizontal label and the inscriptions at top and bottom, is ornamented with colorless engine turned lines.

Watermarks.

The watermarks, three in numbers, are B, D and E, all of which have already been described.

Knives.

Seven knives, numbers, 36, 41, 43, 48, 50, 51 and 52, are found in this series. All have been previously described.

Paper.

The papers are white, amber, amber 3d quality, and blue, the latter having many shades.

No.	N. P. S. No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1877.	Blue Seal.	One Die.	Six Knives.					
6095	(2601)	207	Blue	41	3	B	R	
6096	(2602)	207	Blue	43	5	D	R	
6097	(2603)	207	Blue	50	5	D	R	
6098	(2604)	207	Blue	51	7	B	S	
6099	(2605)	207	Blue	51	7	D	S	
6100	(2606)	207	Blue	51	7	D	R	
6101	(2606a)	207	Blue	36	8	B	S	
6102	(2607)	207	Blue	36	8	D	S	
6103	(2608)	207	Blue	52	8	D	S	
6104	(2609)	207	Amber	43	5	B	R	
6105	(2610)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	43	5	D	R	Laid paper
6106	(2611)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	43	5	None	R	Laid paper
6107	(2612)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	50	5	None	R	Laid paper

No.	N.	P.	S.	No.	Die.	Paper.	Knife.	Size.	Wmk.	Gum.	Remarks.
1877.						One Die.	Five Knives.				
6108	(2613)	207		White	48	3	D		R		
6109	(2613a)	207		White	50	5	D		R		
6110	(2614)	207		White	51	7	D		R		
6111	(2615)	207		White	52	8	D		S		
6112	(2616)	207		Amber	50	5	B		R		
6113	(2617)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	43		5	B		R		
6114	(2618)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	50		5	B		R		
6115	(2619)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	50		5	None		R	Laid paper	
6116	(2620)	207	Amber, 3d qual.	50		5	E		R		

NOTE.—The following envelopes should be added to the list already published.

4224a	(202a)	37	White	32	5	B½	S	Albino
4234a	(311a)	47	White	38	2	B	S	Mis-strike
4681a	(627b)	61	White	47	2	E	R	Albino
4870a	(780a)	73	White	51	7	F	R	Albino
5049a	(949a)	50	White	55	11	G	R	Mis-strike
5096a	(985a)	80	Blue	56	9	G	R	Mis-strike
5109a	(998a)	80	Amber Manila	51	7	G	R	Mis-strike
5110a	(999a)	80	Amber Manila	52	8	G	S	Mis-strike
5224a	(1077a)	83	White	55	11	G	R	Mis-strike
5280a	(1113b)	86	White	52	8	G	S	Mis-strike
5302a	(1127a)	86	Oriental Buff	52	8	G	S	Mis-strike
5328a	(1146j)	87	White	49	4½	G	R	
5359a	(1167a)	89	Oriental Buff	50	5	G	R	Partial Albino
5392a	(1199a)	83	Oriental Buff	50	Dd (5)	J	R	
5397a	(1202c)	83	Manila	50	E (6)	J	U	Partial Albino
5400a	(1204a)	86	White	46	L (1)	J	R	Partial Albino
5404a	(1205c)	86	White	48	A (3)	J	R	Mis-strike
5410a	(1209c)	86	White	49	C (4½)	J	R	Partial Albino
5427a	(1215b)	86	Amber	49	C (4½)	J	R	Partial Albino
5441a	(1228a)	86	Oriental Buff	50	Dd (5)	J	R	Partial Albino
5449a	(1235a)	86	Blue	50	Dd (5)	J	R	Mis-strike
5513a	(1277a)	62	Blue	48	A (3)	J	R	
5522a	(1280a)	90	White	62	P (-)	K	R	Var. 1
5550a	(1314a)	91	White	61	I (8)	K	R	Var. 1
5564a	(1328a)	92	White	51	G (7)	K	R	Var. 4
5571a	(1335a)	93	White	59	H (-)	K	R	Var. 3, partial albino
5571b	(1335b)	93	White	59	H (-)	K	R	Var. 3, mis-strike

We are indebted to Mr. Louis Strauss, of New York, for notes concerning the major portion of the above envelopes and to him, as well as to Mr. Edward H. Mason, of Boston, and Mr. C. F. W. Moser, of Richmond, Va., we tender our hearty thanks for favors received. Mr. Strauss also informs us that he has a specimen of number 719b showing twenty-two impressions on the face of the envelope.

NOTE.—The author will be obliged if collectors will call his attention to any inaccuracies in this list of envelopes; and also for information regarding varieties not known to him. The privilege of personally examining the specimens will also be appreciated.



Leading English Philatelists.

By EDWARD J. NANKWELL.



HASTINGS E. WRIGHT.

In opening this series of interviews with leading English Philatelists fate compels me to commence with the publication of an interview with one who has passed away. Some considerable time before his death I interviewed my friend, the late Mr. Hastings Wright, for the pages of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, with the understanding that the interview should not be published till the eve of the publication of his *Magnum Opus* on the stamps of Great Britain. Hastings Wright is no more, and the work which he had undertaken in collaboration with his friend, Mr. H. B. Creeke, has had to be finished single handed by Mr. Creeke. The bulk of the work is now in the hands of the printer, and should be ready for sale in the course of a few weeks.

The late Mr. Hastings E. Wright was born in London in 1861. He was the son of a distinguished father, the Rev. John Wright, who died some years since within a few weeks of completing his 100th year. The Rev. Mr. Wright was for many years Chaplain to the late Duke of Cambridge,

and could claim the distinction of having been presented to four English Sovereigns. He performed active service till past his 90th year.

Mr. Hastings Wright spent some years in India, in the government service in connection with construction of railways. The story of his philatelic career I will let him tell for himself. Being a neighbor of mine we sometimes went out for a stroll over the Surrey Hills. During one of these strolls we arranged this interview and here in my den we had the following conversation. Like most other collectors he began collecting while at school. A schoolmate had a magnificent collection of beautiful copies and that started him collecting. His school-made collection he sold in 1878 to a dealer. Got tired of it? "Yes, for the time being. I was just then very full of engineering and interest went off elsewhere. I never really lost my interest in stamps, but was not actually a collector, because I went to India, and there were so many perforating machines there in the shape of white ants that I should be very sorry to have any good stamps out there."

How then do Indian collectors keep their treasures? "I know one man who keeps his between two sheets of glass. What with the rainy season, the damp, and the white ants, it is almost impossible to keep a collection there."

When did you start again? "When I came home from India in 1888." And what led to your starting again? "Mr. Garth."

Ah. How did he manage to enthuse you? "I was enthused before, but it occurred in this way. My uncle found some old English stamps in his desk and gave them to my sister and she gave them to me, asking me to see if they were worth anything, as they were of no interest to her. I happened to see Mr. Garth's name and address as the secretary of the Philatelic Society of London and I wrote to him enclosing the stamps. He wrote back and made an offer for them which my sister accepted. Very shortly after my uncle found some more stamps in his desk and gave them to my sister again, and on that occasion I saw Mr. Garth personally, and we had a chat about stamps. I told him of my dormant philatelic flame, and he said, 'you ought to take it up again and become a member of the society,' which I therefore agreed to do if he would propose me."

That was in —? "Oct., 1891."

And then you started afresh? "Yes, but though I was not actually collecting in the interval I was always taking an interest in the pursuit, reading philatelic literature, and so on."

In fact, always intending to start again sometime? "Well, there was always that contingency, but I had no personal contact with any collector."

And you started on what? "On Great Britain. I have never taken up anything else."

You find English enough? "Quite sufficient, in fact I never expect to reach finality."

Do you find the collecting of one country only alienates your sympathy from general collecting? "When one has only a superficial knowledge of other countries it naturally detracts, in some measure, from the interest he has in other stamps, because he is not able to appreciate the intricacies and the points that lend an interest to other stamps. Still, I hold that there is a general interest; for instance, it is a great pleasure to me to look at your Transvaals, though I know nothing whatever about them. I should probably evince as much pleasure over some common variety as over your chief gem."

Of course it is an old question how far specialism will split up the sympathies of collectors? "No doubt, but there must be a common bond of sympathy, because, after all, they are all philatelists."

You have been just three years on your English collection? "Yes, I went into it very thoroughly. I soon got acquainted with some of the leading philatelists through the London society, Mr. Westoby in particular. He helped me very considerably, both with stamps and with advice. I did not restrict myself to any narrow circle in my hunt for specimens for my collection. I put all quarters of the globe under contribution. I hunted them up at all dealers at home, on the continent and in America."

From whence did you get your best? "I think from Mr. Moens."

Do you find many fellow collectors of English? "Oh, yes, many and increasing."

Mostly at home or abroad? "Mostly at home. I don't think there are many specialists of English in America."

Why do you think there are few specialising English in America? "Because a fellow collector bought of one of the keenest New York philatelists a pair of English for a few shillings which I would gladly have secured at £25, in fact I don't know of another pair in this country."

But you have had a few bargains in your time? "A few, but not so many as fall to the lot of some of our old hands, still the few I have had have been bargains of the highest order."

Can you let us into your confidence as to a few? "If you wont mention names."

Very well, go ahead. "A well known dealer was, up to a certain period, in the habit of ignoring plate numbers and watermarks, the stamps of a certain issue being valued by him at a franc apiece all around. I had them all on these terms, including one for which dealers are now asking £4. One of the great gems in my collection, a stamp of which I only know of three copies in an unused condition, was one of a gummed down lot from which I had the first pick. I selected one stamp only on account of its magnificent shade. The lot then passed through the hands of some half dozen of the keenest of the philatelists of the London society and came back to the owner, who again showed it to me, remarking that he thought I had already seen it and that there was nothing more in it in my way. I took a cursory glance so as to be quite sure that I had not missed anything, when it struck me that a particular stamp, judging from its shade, might have a watermark of extreme rarity. It was priced two shillings. I took it on the chance of its being a trump, went home, floated it off, and it was a bargain worth at least £10. Another gem of extreme rarity, in magnificent unused condition, I purchased for ten shillings. It is worth at least £5. I only know of three other copies."

And you have, of course, like the rest of us, missed some chances? "I have indeed, but only one that I have never ceased to regret, and I still want that stamp to complete my English in an unused condition. Apart from the Tapling collection I know of no other copy. I heard of this copy from a friend who refused it at £7, which is about a tenth of its value. I at once rushed down to the dealers to get it and met Ferrary walking out of the shop with it. He had also heard of it, and had driven up, post haste, in a cab, and secured it. He only gave £10 for it."

I see you collect used and unused? "No. Strictly speaking, I collect only unused, but the used you notice are stamps that are practically unobtainable in an unused condition. I, therefore, in one or two instances, strengthen myself with very fine used specimens, although as I have said, there is only one English stamp which I do not possess in an unused condition."

Don't you think a collection should be completed used as well as unused? "Yes, I think there is a great deal to be said for that, but, at the same time,

they should be kept apart, if only for the sake of appearance. Nothing so spoils the general effect of a page of fine unused as one used or one bad copy among them. Of course one reason why English should be collected unused in preference to used is on account of the heavy postmarks. No other post office expends the amount of ink that we do in obliteration."

I suppose you have in your splendid collection some gem that is absolutely unique? "Yes, one. Plate 5 of the 9d unused, which is absolutely unique. 1200 of these stamps were issued, but my copy is the only one known in an unused condition.

Got that for a few pence? "Not quite! It was, however, in a small collection for which an absurd price was asked, if you overlook, as the owner did, the rarity of this particular stamp. I at once drew his attention to this stamp and said I was willing to buy the collection at his figure for the sake of this one stamp. After I had concluded the purchase it was suggested to me as a joke that it should be passed to certain specialists to see whether they would spot this particular treasure. The book was accordingly passed round. It was examined by the late Lord Kingston, Mr. Philbrick, and others, but they turned up their noses at it, for there was nothing in the collection to interest even a schoolboy, apart from this one stamp, which, however, they passed unnoticed. Only recently Mr. Philbrick came to me saying he had been told that the gem of my collection was in a collection which had been offered to him and that he had passed it over unnoticed. He could not believe it, but I was able to assure him that such was the case, for I was standing by when he looked at the page."

I have transcribed this interview from my shorthand notes made at the time. The world of stamp collecting is all the poorer for Mr. Wright's death, for in his methods he reached the high-water mark of specialism. Nothing escaped his attention. He delved into the why and wherefore of every issue and every variety. Mint condition was his standard. No stamp was satisfactory from his point of view that did not come up to that standard. Any stamp that fell below mint, if inserted to fill a blank, was admitted on suffrage, as a sort of *locum tenens*, till a satisfactory copy could be found. He was very scrupulous in his definition of a variety. To be worthy of being called a variety it must be recognizable on the plate itself.

Some two years before his death, in fact shortly after our interview, he sold his splendid collection for over £2500. The plums were mostly absorbed by well-known leading collectors, Mr. Castle, of course, having an early pick. Mr. Wright seems to have got an idea that English were at their highest and that if he kept his collection it might be at the risk of a fall in value. When he sold out his English he started on St. Vincents and, later still went in heavily for Queenslands, of which he got together a splendid lot. His English collection was mounted in albums with sunk mounts designed by the writer. As a fastidious collector I question if he had an equal. Dealers found it impossible to tempt him with anything even slightly off color.

As a writer he was most painstaking and accurate, but not rapid. His industry will be stamped upon the forthcoming work on English postage stamps, the materials for which were hunted up by him and Mr. Creeke from long forgotten documents and records covered almost knee-deep with dust.

The Postage Stamps of the United States,

BY JOHN N. LUFF.

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(Continued from page 503.)

OFFICIAL STAMPS. (Continued.)

From the annual reports of the Postmaster-General we obtain the following statistics of quantities of official stamps delivered to the different departments during the years they were in use. The reader will kindly bear in mind that the year is always the fiscal year ending June 30th:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.										
	1 cent.	2 cents.	3 cents.	6 cents.	7 cents.	10 cents.	12 cents.	15 cents.	24 cents.	30 cents.
1874	60,000	95,000	80,000	60,000	.....	50,000	19,000	14,000	30,000	32,000
1875	30,000	80,000	15,000	25,000	.....	45,000	32,000	40,000	30,000	50,000
1876	.....	25,000	30,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1877	5,000	15,000	20,000	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1878	.....	.....	50,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1879	.....	5,000	40,000	10,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1880	.....	.....	40,000	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881	.....	.....	60,000	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882	200	.....	50,000	.....	.....	50	50	50	50	50
1883	65	10,000	50,000	10,000	.....	65	65	50	65	65
1884	150	150	50	.....	.....	150	150	150	150	150
Total	95,415	230,150	435,050	120,000	.....	95,265	51,265	54,050	60,265	82,265
THE EXECUTIVE.										
1874	1,600	2,100	9,100	1,900	.....	1,550	.....	.....	.....	.....
1875	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1876	2,200	3,000	5,400	2,100	.....	2,300	.....	.....	.....	.....
1877	3,000	4,000	9,000	1,500	.....	1,300	.....	.....	.....	.....
1878	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1879	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1880	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1883	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1884	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	6,800	9,100	23,500	5,500	.....	5,150	.....	.....	.....	.....

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

	1 cent.	2 cents.	3 cents.	6 cents.	7 cents.	10 cents.	12 cents.	15 cents.	24 cents.	30 cents.	90 cents.
1874	198,600	227,900	854,000	425,700	71,750	122,850	71,500	49,275	46,150	16,525	
1875	45,000	164,000	700,000	294,300	50,600	63,200	32,100	34,000	26,150	10,020	
1876	114,000	253,000	615,000	336,000	105,200	77,500	18,500	18,250	52,250	15,000	
1877	16,500	92,500	833,000	263,000	7,600	21,000	8,000	5,500	4,000	12,100	
1878	31,300	11,200	171,300	30,000	1,000	20,000	*****	*****	3,200	4,700	
1879	25,400	31,000	337,000	60,000	2,700	27,000	75,000	8,800	3,800	3,782	
1880	12,000	10,000	268,000	59,000	*****	2,000	26,000	*****	500	1,000	
1881	*****	*****	180,000	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
1882	8,000	30,800	341,200	65,500	35,500	5,800	3,500	3,600	2,000	1,000	
1883	14,000	23,000	699,000	59,000	*****	10,000	2,000	*****	*****	*****	
1884	20,000	570,000	260,000	130,000	10,000	10,500	10,500	10,500	250	250	
Total	394,800	1,413,400	5,258,500	1,722,500	*****	284,350	359,850	247,100	134,125	138,300	64,377

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

1874	9,000	7,400	39,000	27,000	*****	3,000	7,500	4,000	800	2,000	300
1875	6,000	4,900	29,000	7,000	*****	4,000	6,000	4,000	2,600	3,000	500
1876	*****	4,500	33,000	12,000	*****	3,500	3,000	1,800	500	600	400
1877	10,000	10,000	34,000	14,000	*****	4,000	2,000	*****	1,000	1,500	1,500
1878	*****	*****	23,000	10,000	*****	4,000	4,000	2,000	*****	*****	*****
1879	*****	*****	23,000	14,000	*****	2,000	4,000	1,000	1,500	1,500	500
1880	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
1881	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
1882	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
1883	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
1884	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	*****	
Total	25,000	26,900	182,000	84,000	*****	20,500	26,800	12,800	6,400	8,600	3,200

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

	1 cent.	2 cents.	3 cents.	6 cents.	7 cents.	10 cents.	12 cents.	15 cents.	24 cents.	30 cents.	90 cents.
1874	22,800	48,350	110,700	58,800	6,000	13,210	22,300	10,000	8,600	2,070	
1875	25,000	37,000	80,000	35,000	7,000	20,000	15,000	13,000	4,000	5,000	2,700
1876	15,000	25,000	95,000	40,000	.....	10,000	10,000	8,000	4,000	8,000	2,000
1877	15,000	20,000	95,000	43,000	2,000	8,000	10,000	.....	6,000	4,000	4,000
1878	10,000	20,000	65,000	30,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,000	.....
1879	4,000	13,000	65,000	22,000	1,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	3,000	500
1880	.....	7,000	15,000	5,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882	5,000	6,000	15,000	1,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1883	10,000	25,000	40,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1884	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	106,800	201,350	580,700	234,800	16,000	55,210	61,300	37,500	26,000	29,600	12,270

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

1874	632,300	399,250	16,906,000	787,950	.....	79,500	218,600	67,860	47,900	37,600	30,150
1875	98,900	126,500	11,873,200	1,089,600	.....	25,250	12,120	11,550	13,900	9,250	
1876	232,300	247,300	10,435,200	745,900	.....	101,200	13,975	9,280	9,500	60,400	4,950
1877	56,600	29,900	8,057,600	191,450	.....	300	12,900	8,760	9,600	9,300	8,900
1878	67,500	78,100	9,701,400	310,850	.....	1,250	18,055	6,500	5,700	5,680	9,700
1879	26,650	13,550	8,324,300	181,050	.....	200	10,000	4,765	3,375	6,375	2,250
1880	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1883	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1884	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1,114,250	894,600	65,297,700	3,306,800	.....	182,450	298,780	109,285	87,625	133,255	65,200

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

	2 dollars,	5 dollars,	10 dollars,	20 dollars,
1874	463	363	363	363
1875	1,000	*****	*****	*****
1876	500	*****	*****	*****
1877	1,245	*****	*****	*****
1878	*****	*****	*****	*****
1879	*****	*****	*****	*****
1880	*****	*****	*****	*****
1881	*****	*****	*****	*****
1882	300	*****	*****	*****
1883	*****	*****	*****	*****
1884	*****	*****	*****	*****
Total				363
				363
				363

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

	1 cent,	2 cents,	3 cents,	6 cents,	7 cents,	10 cents,	12 cents,	15 cents,	24 cents,	30 cents	90 cents.
1874	1,000,000	1,244,500	4,350,000	1,315,000	120,000	250,000	483,000	433,000	100,000	96,500	50,500
1875	250,000	.....	1,150,000	600,000	75,000	150,000	.....	.....	.....	100,000	75,000
1876	550,000	300,000	1,800,000	540,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1877	300,000	240,000	1,950,000	550,000	25,000	100,000	100,000	50,000	.....	110,000	67,000
1878	600,000	450,000	1,590,000	600,000	.....	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	70,000	50,000
1879	200,000	250,000	1,400,000	500,000	.....	100,000	100,000	80,000	80,000	70,000	70,000
1880	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	391,500	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1883	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1884	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	2,900,000	2,484,500	11,250,000	4,105,000	220,000	1,291,500	783,000	663,000	100,000	456,500	312,500

WAR DEPARTMENT.

1874	187,300	70,300	225,300	116,950	6,600	20,600	18,000	17,700	19,900	15,750	4,650
1875	173,600	64,550	186,000	113,600	10,700	13,500	20,750	23,025	18,600	31,875	2,200
1876	83,750	51,800	231,000	144,050	13,110	50,725	29,830	14,430	12,080	12,840	3,245
1877	83,580	102,850	519,200	281,450	6,770	26,170	31,830	14,510	7,610	21,150	270
1878	128,100	102,300	575,500	325,000	125	30,425	57,975	17,025	21,325	18,825	4,425
1879	249,500	133,300	829,200	574,050	8,600	26,018	127,710	37,100	17,115	44,120	3,112
1880	1,527,550	61,000	442,933	270,433	53	41,075	89,755	25,250	12,025	36,541	3,380
1881	121,150	125,580	774,524	518,540	3,020	19,495	113,095	27,520	15,870	38,230	6,520
1882	109,500	113,980	680,425	518,440	2,950	30,445	133,375	53,500	33,200	58,240	6,800
1883	102,500	84,200	747,455	445,000	2,800	43,600	102,050	30,400	11,300	35,600	6,050
1884	534,700	957,300	181,000	277,300	1,900	49,700	67,700	25,500	34,900	23,470	6,920
Total	3,301,230	1,867,160	5,393,137	3,584,813	55,728	342,753	792,070	285,960	200,925	336,641	48,172

The official stamps having become obsolete it is said that the various departments were requested to return to the Post Office Department any unused stamps which they had on hand, and that some of the departments complied with this request while others declined, on the ground that they had paid for the stamps and should not give them up unless suitably compensated. Concerning such official stamps as had been manufactured but not distributed to the departments, the Third Assistant Postmaster General made the following recommendations :

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14, 1885.

SIR :—The issue and use of official stamps was discontinued under the third section of the Act of July 5, 1884 (General Statutes, 1st Session, 48th Congress), extending the use of penalty envelopes to all classes of official correspondence. At that time the contractors for furnishing stamps, the American Bank Note Co., of New York, had and now have in their vaults at the manufactory, as shown by the weekly reports made to this office, the following numbers and denominations of official stamps, viz :

Denomination.	Executive.	State.	Treasury.	War.	Navy.
1 cent	3,500	13,500	1,292,950	37,170	421,200
2 cents	1,900	4,000	1,921,500	75,340	381,150
3 cents	1,100	11,900	534,000	104,463	454,800
6 cents	4,700	10,600	169,000	2,787	355,300
7 cents	.....	7,500	201,200	161,772	276,900
10 cents	4,950	8,000	13,300	231,947	267,290
12 cents	.....	24,300	444,000	25,130	236,199
15 cents	.....	22,300	610,400	108,540	210,000
24 cents	.....	31,500	279,500	103,675	219,800
30 cents	.....	24,700	20,600	6,159	217,300
90 cents	.....	35,257	37,000	167,728	233,830
2 dollars	.....	472	.....	.....	.....
5 dollars	.....	1,707	.....	.....	.....
10 dollars	.....	1,767	.....	.....	.....
20 dollars	.....	1,777	.....	.....	.....
	16,150	199,280	5,523,450	1,024,711	3,279,769

Denomination.	Interior.	Post Office.	Justice.	Agriculture.
1 cent	56,000	2,888,750	24,300	149,585
2 cents	13,700	419,400	21,000	55,150
3 cents	40,500	263,100	79,700	37,950
6 cents	37,800	559,700	47,500	101,000
7 cents	.....	.....	.....	.....
10 cents	32,050	144,250	19,400	84,935
12 cents	99,450	321,220	17,500	91,735
15 cents	52,200	146,715	20,200	87,350
24 cents	10,175	259,875	13,600	112,635
30 cents	48,700	209,045	13,100	90,535
90 cents	20,523	254,600	6,300	.....
	411,098	5,496,655	262,600	810,875
Grand Total,	17,024,588.			

As it is not likely that these stamps will be needed for use by the government, to avoid any risks that may attend their custody, I would respectfully recommend that they be counted and destroyed under the supervision of a committee to be appointed by the Postmaster General, and the facts certified under affidavit by the committee.

There are also in the vaults of the contractors certain other stamps of the regular series that have been rendered unserviceable by reason of changes at various times in the rates of postage, and as it is improbable that these stamps will ever be required for issue, I would recommend that they also be counted and destroyed in like manner, and by the same committee suggested with regard to the official stamps.

These stamps are in number and denomination as follows:

Denomination.	Ordinary.	Newspaper and Periodical.	Total.
3 cents	.....	223,750	223,750
7 cents	545,600	.....	545,600
9 cents	.....	101,240	101,240
12 cents	503,750	.....	503,750
24 cents	364,950	.....	364,950
Total	1,414,300	324,990	1,739,290

I have excepted from this recommendation the three-cent stamps of the ordinary series, of which there are 135,800 in the vault, for the reason that, though their general issue has been discontinued, occasional calls are made for them by some of the larger offices.

The total number of stamps in the foregoing lists, recommended to be destroyed, is 18,763,878, which at the contract price of 9.19c per thousand, would amount to \$204 52.

In the event that this recommendation should meet with your approval, permit me to suggest that the work of counting and destruction be performed by the committee selected to supervise the cancellation of the dies, etc., at the several places of manufacture.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. D. HAZEN,

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

HON. FRANK HATTON,
Postmaster General.

These suggestions appear to have met with the approval of the Postmaster General and they were accordingly embodied in the following order:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14, 1885.

Ordered (No. 75), that A. G. Sharp, Chief Post Office Inspector, Geo. W. Wells, Chief of the Finance Division of the Office of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, and C. M. Walker, Chief Clerk of the Post Office Department, be designated as a committee to visit the postage stamp manufactory at New York, the stamped envelope manufactory at Hartford, Conn., and the postal card manufactory at Castleton, N. Y., and in connection with the Government agent at each of these places, to dispose of, as hereinafter indicated, the dies, rolls and plates of the several series of postage stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards heretofore and now in use.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

At New York, the Committee will effectually cancel all plates of the following series and denominations of postage stamps, except one working plate of each :

Issue of 1847 : Denominations, 5 and 10 cents.

Issue of 1851 : Denominations, 1, 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 30 and 90 cents, also two separate designs of 1-cent carrier stamps.

Issue of 1861 : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents.

Issue of 1865 (newspaper and periodical) : Denominations, 5, 10 and 25 cents.

Issue of 1869 : Denominations 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents.

Issue of 1870 (current series) : Denominations, 3, 5 (Taylor), 7, 12 and 24 cents.

Issue of 1874 (newspaper and periodical) : Denominations, 3 and 9 cents.

Executive (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6 and 10 cents.

Department of State (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents, and \$2, \$5, \$10 and \$20.

Treasury Department (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents.

War Department (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30 and 90 cents.

Navy Department (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.

Post Office Department (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.

Department of the Interior (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.

Department of Justice (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, and 90 cents.

Department of Agriculture (official) : Denominations, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15, 24, and 30 cents.

The one plate of each kind and denomination of postage stamp reserved as above, and the dies and rolls from which they have been produced, together with all the cancelled plates, to be inventoried, waxed, and carefully boxed and sealed, and placed in the vault of the stamp manufactory in the custody and under the control of the agent, one copy of such inventory to be given to the agent, and one to be sent by the committee to the Department.

The committee will also superintend the cancellation of any worn out and unserviceable plates of the current series of postage stamps that may be in the possession of the contractors.

* * * * *

The committee will also supervise the counting and destruction of certain discontinued issues of postage stamps, at the postage stamp manufactory at New York, in accordance with the accompanying recommendation of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General.

Upon completing the work for which they are appointed, the committee will make a written report.

FRANK HATTON,
Postmaster General.

On February 24th, 1885, the committee reported: "We have counted

and destroyed by burning, in accordance with instructions, the official and uncurrent stamps, numbering 18,438,888. The schedule of denominations is herewith transmitted." (*House Executive Documents, 1884-85, 48th Congress, Session II, No. 264.*)

The schedule was the same as that given in the letter of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General excepting the newspaper and periodical stamps. The decision to destroy was evidently reconsidered in the case of those stamps, and it is understood that at least a part of them were subsequently used.

As has been previously remarked, the tables of quantities of stamps delivered to the Stamp Agent are not sufficiently extensive or complete to be of much value for comparison, yet we can make some limited deductions from them. Let us consider the four higher values of the Department of State. Comparing the number received by the Stamp Agent with the deliveries to the Department and the quantity burned, we find a difference of exactly five hundred of each value. We cannot, with present information, explain this discrepancy. It is possible that the stamps not accounted for were proofs, though the author is advised by those familiar with such matters that this is not probable. For the present we will have to leave the question for the consideration of those who are interested in such matters.

Note.—It is the wish of the author to secure for this work the greatest possible accuracy and completeness. As an assistance to this end he requests philatelists to call his attention to any errors or corrections to be made in dates and to any varieties which may be omitted from the lists. In addition to this the publishers will greatly appreciate the loan of any copies of the Baltimore and Brattleboro stamps and of Carriers of type C4, C28, C29 and C30 (58th edition of the Standard Catalogue) in order that illustrations of as many types as possible may be secured. The loan of stamps of the current issue on blued paper is also requested. For which favors thanks are tendered in advance.

(*To be continued.*)



Notes on Counterfeits of the First Issue of Valparaiso, Chile, Postage Due Stamps.

BY GUST. WIEDMANN.

Translated from *Anales de la Sociedad Filatélica "Santiago"*
by J. M. ANDREINI.

Owing to the initiative of the progressive postmaster of Valparaiso, Mr. Ossa Borne, a trial was made in October of 1894, of the method of using adhesive stamps on unpaid parcels. The hand-stamps which had been used up to that time, October 12th, 1894, to mark the fines on mail matter were used for printing the first adhesives. The nine denominations from 2 to 40 centavos were stamped by hand on common yellow paper which is generally used for making flying kites or for wrapping wine bottles. These provisional stamps were in use only a short time. The trial showed the usefulness of the method and the permanent issue of postage due stamps was first issued in Valparaiso on January 1st, 1895, and afterwards for all the post offices in the Republic about July, 1897.

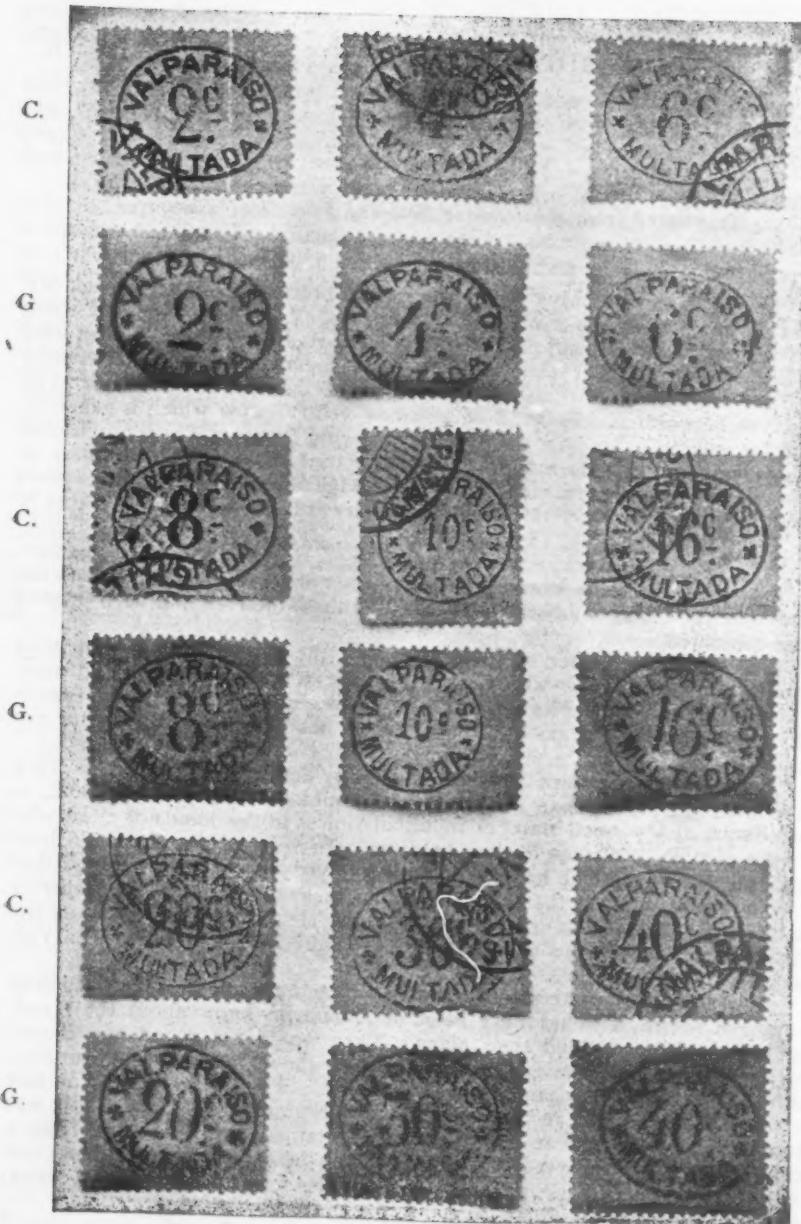
The remaining stock of postage due stamps, of the values of 2 to 40 centavos, was burnt on the evening before the 1st of January, 1895, and at the same time the metal hand-stamps with which the adhesives had been printed were destroyed.

The limited number of these adhesives, the short time in which they were in use, and the ease with which they are torn produced an advance in their market price. The series of 9 values is quoted as high as 25 pesos in Chile at present, and I am told that a series has been sold in Paris for 250 francs.

As soon as the stamps were catalogued by Senf, Scott and others, they were ordered from Chilean collectors who could not satisfy the demand, as the comparatively small number in circulation is in the hands of a few who are not anxious to dispose of their holdings. In order to possess some there was only one way, which has been often employed by the unscrupulous, that is to say to counterfeit them, a task by no means difficult as the paper is easily obtainable, and it is easy also to find a clever engraver to imitate the adhesive stamps, 2 to 40 centavos, and the cancelling stamps used in Valparaiso in 1894.

Had the counterfeiters gone to work with more wisdom and ability than they have shown, it would have been impossible to know about the fraud. But their ambition ruined their plans. They would not spend any money buying the original adhesives, as it will be later shown, nor were they satisfied with swindling their exchanging friends abroad. They placed them on sale in several stamp shops in Valparaiso at the beginning of 1897, and it was from there and through an accident that I obtained the counterfeits from a correspondent. They were sold at from 3 to 5 pesos a series, and these low prices made me and made other collectors suspect a fraud. I bought a series, compared it with my originals, and the fraud was discovered.

As I spoke of my discovery to various friends, and as the news spread



widely, the stamps are no longer offered in large quantities, though a set may be occasionally seen here and there.

With a view to prevent frauds, protect collectors, and maintain the good name which the genuine stamps rightly enjoy, I have studied the counterfeits and now publish the result, at a friend's suggestion, in the *Bulletin of the Santiago Philatelic Society*.

The annexed illustration shows both the genuine stamps and the counterfeits. The former, unused, are on the second, fourth and sixth rows, while the counterfeits are cancelled, and on the first, third and fifth rows.

GENERAL REMARKS.

- 1). *Paper*: It is alike in genuine and counterfeits, and is of two shades, one lighter the other deeper yellow.
- 2). *Gum*: It is difficult to say anything on the subject because the counterfeits are generally sold on the piece.
- 3). *Cancellation*: *a*. The genuine, when cancelled, bear dates from October 12, 1894, to December 31, 1894. *b*. In the counterfeits only *two* dates are found and they are illegible, but both dates prove the cancellation is bad: one is 22 V 94 and the other . . . VII 94, two impossible dates, as the stamps were only first used in October, 1894.
- 4). *Perforation*: Genuine : 18x15; counterfeits : 18½, (19)x15½.
- 5). *Ornaments*: Genuine : Maltese cross ; counterfeits : rosette.

SPECIAL REMARKS.

2C STAMP.

G.	C.
Lower horizontal stroke of the 2 4.9mm.	Only 3. 9mm.
The c in CENTAVOS is 2½mm. high.	3mm.
An extension of the horizontal stroke of the 2 cuts into the M of MULTADA.	It clears the M.
An extension of the diagonal stroke of the 2 strikes between A and I of VALPARAISO.	Strikes the R.
A vertical line before the 2 will strike between P and A of VALPARAISO.	Strikes between L and P.

4C STAMP.

G.	C.
An extension of the diagonal stroke of the 4 strikes R above and M below.	Will not strike the R and strikes the forepart of the U.
The R looks like a P.	The R is perfect.
The horizontal line of the 4 is 4 9mm. The oval measures 22½x18mm.	3.9mm. 23x19mm.

6C STAMP.

Imperfect figure 6.	Perfect.
The line over the period is nearly invisible.	The line is strong.
The oval is broken near the left cross.	Perfect oval.

8C STAMP.

A vertical line from R touches L.
An extension of the V point, strikes D.
Thin 8.

Passes between L and T.
Strikes A.
Thick 8.

10C STAMP.

The foot of the I measures 2mm.
The O seems wider at the bottom.

1mm.
Wider at top.

16C STAMP (1).

Width of the 6, 4.1mm.

3.1mm.

Length " 7.9mm.

7.5mm.

" of C 3.9mm.

3.1mm.

An extension of the vertical stroke
of R passes between L and T.

Touches T.

20C STAMP.

The left stroke of the U falls short.

Strokes even.

30C STAMP.

The figure 3^a
b. measures 3.9mm,
" 3mm.

3mm.
2.6mm.

The P is imperfect, looks like a D.
The left stroke of the U is short.
The C leans toward the left.

Perfect.
Even strokes.
Leans rather to the right.

40C STAMP.

Flattened oval on right side.
Horizontal line of the 4 measures
3.2mm.
The O is 3.8mm wide.
Thin figures 40.
The C is hardly visible.

Perfect oval.
4.1mm.
4.1mm.
Thick figures.
Strong C.

(1). It is evident that the counterfeit was made without a genuine model.

VALPARAISO, December, 1897.



Our English Letter.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

LONDON, 1, December, 1898.

We are on the threshold of a battle of the Catalogues. Both Gibbons' and Bright's are advertised for publication this month. On every hand we are assured that great attention is being paid to the pricing. As Gibbons and Bright are coming out about the same time there will be no time for copying prices, and the consequence is that we expect to be able to make some curious comparisons, for prices have been admittedly all abroad for some months. Gibbons, it is said, intends to put an end to the 50 per-centers, *i.e.*, he will so reduce all reducible prices that there will be an end of all "50 per-cent reductions from Gibbons." Of course the small dealer with only a back attic rent will always be able to sell at a lower price than the large dealer with his £200 to £700 rent, but then there is the compensating fact that the back attic stamps are generally in back attic condition with the superadded flavor of a fair sprinkling of forgeries, reprints and mended stamps.

Gibbons catalogue is growing in size and price. Whether it is wise to make the catalogue so expensive is open to question. The publishers should know their own business best, but to the ordinary mortal six shillings seems an almost prohibitive price for a stamp catalogue which, after all, is only a price list of goods for sale. Vol. I., is to be confined to the stamps of the British Colonies; Vol. II., to the stamps of Foreign countries; Vol. III., to Local Postage Stamps; and Vol. IV., to Envelopes and Postcards. This division accords with the new series of Imperial albums published by Gibbons. It is a fine programme, but for the multitude it is decidedly expensive. Bright's catalogue, on the other hand, will be in one volume at 2s.6d. The illustrations in both are anything but first class; in some cases they are absolutely useless. To my mind the illustrations are a very essential feature of a stamp catalogue. Possibly the new catalogues may show an improvement in this respect, but it is not anticipated that they will, in which case they will assuredly again yield the palm to Scott's catalogue as the most useful and by far the cheapest in the market.

One great feature of these new catalogues will be the full illustration of our English issues, which will be greatly appreciated if properly done.

The old question of arrangement will be re-opened by the difference of the placing of the countries. Gibbons puts the mother country and its colonies together, but Bright adheres to the old plan of placing all countries in strictly alphabetical order. The Specialist will probably prefer the Gibbons arrangement, but I am inclined to believe that the average collector will vote for the strictly alphabetical list.

Amongst the knowing ones on this side it is generally agreed that Scotts have adopted a shrewd course in postponing the publication of the American catalogue, thus leaving the English catalogues the task of solving the

difficult problem of settling the very unsettled question of prices. By the time the English catalogues have been thoroughly digested we shall be able to arrive at some conclusion as to what really the most closely approximates the market price of the general run of stamps. Therefore the publication of Scott's catalogue a few months hence will be regarded as a sort of final word on the question of prices. Whether any or even all the catalogues will serve to steady the market remains to be seen.

Talking about mended stamps reminds me that the latest idea in the Strand is to stamp all mended stamps lightly on the back with the word "mended." This is done with a rubber stamp and, as aniline ink is used for the rubber stamps this advertisement of the fact that the stamp has been mended cannot easily be disposed of, except by a backing, which, on being removed, will reveal the declaration and secure the return of the money from any respectable stamp dealing firm. Now that stamps are so cleverly repaired by collectors and dealers it is only right and fair that this protection against fraud should be generally adopted by dealers and collectors alike. I say *collectors* also, for a collector often mends a stamp in his collection, and, should he forget his having mended a particular stamp, he may sell or exchange it some day and land some unwary dealer or collector in no end of trouble. A friend of mine some time since bought a beautiful specimen of a rare stamp and was enormously pleased with his purchase, but when he put that stamp into water to remove some paper from the back, lo and behold, it floated off into a small fleet of pieces.

There are all sorts of rumors about as to the re-arrangement of this sub-lunary sphere. You are, on your side of the pond, of course, expected to go in for colonials, some time or another in the very near future, for Hawaii, Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippine Islands. Then Crete is to have Prince George of Greece as its ruler and set up shop on its own account, with presumably an issue of stamps of its own. According to a *Morning Post* telegram there is to be a shuffling of the cards between this country and Germany in the course of which Germany will get Zanzibar and we shall surcharge the stamps of Egypt with the word "Protectorate."

The sale of Mr. Pearce's Transvaals has passed off fairly successfully. The owner is, however, much disappointed with the result, for, of course, there were many things that were practically sacrificed, more especially in the issues of the first republic. But this was only to be expected, for those issues are little understood and are gauged by the catalogue prices, which refer only to the commonest of all that series, whereas some of the stamps of the first republic are among the gems of the collection. Of many of the first republic only 4,000 to 8,000 were printed and the highest number did not reach 60,000, so that practically all the issues of the first republic may be said to be more or less scarce, and certainly so in fine condition. Nevertheless, they rarely fetch their real value, and Mr. Pearce's sale was no great exception. There was, however, one exception, and that was the last shilling of the first republic—the yellow green, the remainders of which were subsequently surcharged as the first shilling of the British occupation. An unused pair of this rare shilling fetched the record sum of £9. A few years ago this stamp could be picked up for 10s to 20s the pair. The collection altogether realized a grand total of about £750. The notable feature of the whole business is the fact that a specialist's collection of a by no means fashionable country has been completely absorbed in a two day's sale, for

very few lots were bought in, and not more than three or four lots in all were passed for lack of bids. The plums all sold at an advance on what the owner paid for them, with one or two exceptions. The unused copy of the error "Transvral" brought only £27 instead of the £50 which the owner paid for it, but then it is soiled on the face and thinned at the back,

Here are the more important lots and the prices they fetched :—

Lot 30.	6d, 1870, on previously gummed paper, pair, tête bêche,	5. 0. 0
42.	1s, thick paper, 1870, local print, pair, tête bêche,	7. 0. 0
174.	1s, yellow green, 1877, unused pair, first republic,	9. 0. 0
186.	3d. V. R. TRANSVAAL in red, wider apart variety,	12. 10. 0
188.	3d, " double surcharge, one in red and one in black,	19. 10. 0
199.	1d, " strip of three, black surcharge, center stamp wider apart variety,	13. 0. 0
200.	1d, " used copy of same variety,	8. 5. 0
232.	6d, " used copy of same variety,	7. 15. 0
233.	6d, " same stamp, but surcharge inverted,	9. 15. 0
239.	1s, " same variety, strip of three, red surcharge, center stamp wider apart,	19. 0. 0
240.	1s, " same variety, pair, black surcharge,	16. 0. 0
257.	1s, " black surcharge, pair, tête bêche,	16. 0. 0
265.	6d, blue on rose, without surcharge,	15. 0. 0
276.	1d, red on blue, error "Transvral," unused,	27. 0. 0

Another feature of the sale was the fact that in almost every case the reserves were exceeded, and in most cases the lots on which there were reserves were started above the reserves. The attendance was small, but all present were buyers. The general opinion is that the experiment of devoting a two day's sale exclusively to the disposal of a specialist collection of one country has turned out a success when all the experts were shaking their heads over the risky character of the experiment. After such a sale Transvaals will have to be ranked as a safe, realizable and good investment.

One more note on Transvaals. Of the 1d on 2½d violet of 1885 design, as everyone knows there are two recognized varieties of surcharge, the abnormal variety showing a wider space between the "1" and the "d." I note that Gibbons says this variety occurs only once in each sheet, and prices it accordingly. But the Strand authority is mistaken. I have not a sheet to enable me to say exactly how many there are on the sheet, but I have a block of a dozen before me. It is the right hand lower corner block of the sheet, and has the margin paper at the right hand side and at the bottom. In the lower strip of three, the first and last stamps are each of the wider spaced variety, and have the normal surcharge between. Possibly Gibbons base their statement upon a different pane.

Whilst I am referring to this Transvaal variety I may as well give the exact measurements which differentiate the two varieties. In the normal surcharge the letter "d" is just one millimetre from the stroke of the figure "1," and in the abnormal variety the letter "d" is two mm. from the stroke of the figure

At the same time I may warn readers of the *A. J. of P.* against paying fancy prices for inverted surcharges of this stamp. For a long time the inverted surcharge was unknown. The lot was evidently carefully weeded out

and a clique of speculators in the Transvaal kept them up their sleeves till they could be produced as a rarity. They are now plentiful. I have seen large blocks of them.

In the November number of the *London Philatelist* there is a good old growl under the not very novel title of "Breakers Ahead." The Secretary of the Plymouth Philatelic Society is the Jeremiah on this occasion. Well, well, we all have a go at playing Jeremiah sometime or another I suppose. It tends to relieve the feelings when we are smarting under some disappointment; when, for instance, we have invested a bit two freely in something that has not turned up trumps. Then there are "breakers ahead," and philately is going, as fast as possible, to the devil. The particular growl to which the *London Philatelist* has given utterly undeserved publicity is a very shallow business. The writer, a collector confessedly of only four short years experience, sees "only breakers ahead." In his opinion "no stable market value or monetary status can be attached to a new issue, either *en bloc* or *singulatum*, until a year, at the very least, has elapsed since its appearance." And he thinks "if collectors realized this homely fact philately would be the gaiuer." Perhaps so, but they would be very innocent fools who would make it a rule. Then he holds that there is "nothing more disheartening than to find that the particular stamp or stamps, issued, it may be, with blare of philatelic trumpets; acquired, it may be, as something worth having and worth keeping; paid for, it may be, in good round figures at something much above face value; is after all, when the twelve months have expired, merely an ordinary outcome of the stamp impressions of the country it may represent." And he cannot quote a better instance to illustrate his text than that of the 12½ perf. thick paper, British South Africa Company, in the two low values of 2d and 4d. These saw the light in 1895. More than a year later, in Gibbons' catalogue we find 25s unused, as the price of either, and verily the African prophets swore by thick papers, 12½ perf. Then he goes on to say "Here one felt that one could and should secure as fast as circumstances would permit. My own personal experience was a curious one in regard to these two varieties, for a well-known dealer offered me by wire two complete panes (i. e. 60 stamps apiece) of the values in question for £80. Had I wished for the panes, I was in no wise able to dream of the price. But there was a sense of relief when I learned a little later from the same dealer that he had lost heavily over his African purchase, as he found himself compelled to refund to a number of purchasers the long prices paid for what was, after all, merely a current variety."

Now, as a matter of fact, all the circumstances of the issue of these two varieties were published at the time in the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY. I pointed out that it was a printing made hurriedly from the Bradbury and Wilkinson plates by Perkins Bacon & Co. to supply an immediate demand cabled for from South Africa. There was no time to wait for the completion of the new issue then in course of preparation by Perkins Bacon & Co. I gave the numbers printed—30,000 of each value, I stated that practically the whole supply was hurried off to Rhodesia, the London Office forgetting to hold any back for dealers, who are supplied from the head office, and I pointed out that, as the printing was unknown to dealers, and no opportunity had been afforded them of securing a supply, and as dealers agents out in Rhodesia knew the home office supplied dealers, they were not likely to snap up any and that, therefore, in all probability, unused copies would be very scarce, for naturally the chances were that this small supply

would be used up before it would have become known. But the war besieged the supply at Salisbury, and surcharged Capes had to take their place. For this reason, apparently, the stock was not used up before it became known, and dealers were able to secure some of what remained—no very great quantity, I believe. Now, had the writer used his common sense he would have reasoned from the offers of quantities of unused, especially in sheets, that dealers *had secured* a supply, and that, therefore, the stamps should be obtainable at a fair price, unused. I believe the dealers, when they got their supplies, offered them at 3s. to 4s.; a very fair price, and even now they are not likely to be ever common unused.

Take the one other instance to justify his growl which he quotes:

" Yet another evil, which is part and parcel of the same misfortune of a stamp world groaning under its professional catalogues, is that of the market-rigging. Here again there is, to my mind, a very real source of danger and discredit. No outside amateur can hope of himself to master this problem. Let me adduce an illustration. For a long time the 1s., green, shaft issue, Transvaal Republic, was not to be had. Dealers apparently were hunting high and low for the stamp; and I know that I wearied several members of the trade by my importunity. At last a copy or two began to filter through the auction lists, always in single blessedness. Finally, a leading firm quoted me, in reply to correspondence, £8 for an unused, and 56s. for a used specimen. A little latter a second dealer assured me that I would do unspeakably well if I bought at his figure—12s. 6d. per copy. Of course, the copies at his disposal were extremely limited! And of course through another source I gathered that in fair Birmingham more than one collector had secured his copy at 1s. 6d. per stamp, and this at more or less coincident periods of time. From £8 to 1s. 6d. is a flight of genius."

Here, again, the growler has only himself to blame. If collectors and speculators will not read the leading philatelic journals, but will prefer to be guided by irresponsible rumor, they have only themselves to blame if they get led astray and suffer accordingly. Very soon after the appearance of the 1s two shafts a young South African started the report that the stamp was going to be scarce. The report spread and gathered strength from the fact that few were to be had. I inquired into the matter, and I could find no other foundation for the report than the acknowledged fact that copies were not plentiful. Nevertheless, I pointed out in the pages of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY that the probabilities were that an ordinary supply had been printed, and that if only one printing was made it might be somewhat scarce, but there would still be no reason for paying fancy prices for the stamp, and I even went so far as to intimate that double face would be a safe price to pay, but that anything beyond that would be pure speculation in the dark, for the real value could not be known until we had the number printed. To this day we do not know the number printed, and, therefore, to this day, the real market value of that stamp is an unknown quantity. It steadily fetches at auction from 8s to 12s and that is all we know.

I venture to say, in all seriousness, that the publication of such growls as I have referred to, upon such evidence, is a far greater harm to philately than any of the ordinary evils which it has to face. Mr. Castle wisely appends a note stating that "It will be obvious that there are considerable portions of this article which do not bear out our views." But I submit that

five solid pages of such twaddle is a bit too great a sample of editorial leniency.

The Manchester Philatelic Society is coming rapidly to the front, and there are some who hope that it will take up the publishing work which the Premier Society seems to neglect. Members have even given up howling for the second part of the African colonies book, the first part of which was published so long ago.

Manchester is going to make its International Philatelic Exhibition of next year a big event, for it is no secret that it wants to rival the London show, and I am not sure that it will not go a long way in that direction. If the London members help in exhibits it will, but there is no gainsaying the fact that the members of the Premier society have the stamps and without their help any show in this country will be more or less like the play of Hamlet without Hamlet. Our Manchester friends have secured the Fine Art Gallery in their busy city for the show, and they have got out a programme very much on the lines of the London Exhibition. One new feature is special prizes for competition amongst the members of individual societies. Thus, a member of a provincial society might feel that he had no chance against the general exhibitor, but when pitted only against the members of his own society he might feel that he was a strong competitor. This idea is worth carrying further in exhibitions. For instance, on your side you might pit state against state, or east against west, in a general exhibition ; we might pit county against county; and in France they might put department against department. It seems the best way yet devised to keep the International lions from gobbling up everything.

With the December number of the *Philatelic Record* I terminate my editorship of that Journal. It is, I understand, in future to be edited by Mr. Theodore Buhl himself! It is a matter of great regret and disappointment to me that the Fates have not favored the full development of my ideal of what a philatelic journal should be. The more immediate result of my severance from the *Philatelic Record* will be that the readers of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY will get much more of my scribbling than they have had of late, and I shall do my best to prevent that fact being an unmixed evil. We are old friends in the pages of the A. J. of P.

A few nights since we had one of our gatherings of the London Philatelic Society and heard a, well, a "communication" from H. R. H. the Duke of York, our Vice-President. I am not at liberty to call it "a paper," but to all intents and purposes it was a most useful contribution, for it contained a series of questions which H. R. H. had put to the Danish postal authorities concerning the engraving of the much discussed Denmark, 1851. 2sk. The official replies to H. R. H. practically settle the question of varieties raised in our last session by Mr. Ehrenbach. The "communication" and the official replies will be published in an early number of the *London Philatelist*, and will be another of many proofs that our royal President is an active and shrewd philatelist, and not a merely ornamental variety.

Mr. Castle has his knife into the surcharging states of East, South, Central Africa and Zanzibar. They are certainly very prolific, but I fear we must give even the Devil his due, and admit that British South Africa has clean

hands in the business, and that the postmaster of British East Africa has stood the fire of official inquiry, concerning the issues of British East Africa and Zanzibar. Still, a healthy denunciation of too frequent and, therefore, suspicious surcharging is in the truest interests of philately. It is a thousand pities that the official warning against surcharging sent out by the Marquis of Ripon, when Colonial Secretary, was not carried into full effect, and a full official explanation required of every recourse to such suspicious make-shifts. If the premier society were to wake up, it might succeed in initiating some such proceeding, for it is easy enough to demonstrate the temptations to official jobbery which a too free permission to surcharge opens up in far away colonies.

The 50 per-centers are promised a lively time of it in Germany. Several leading firms are said to have entered upon a crusade against the 50 per cent, determined to expose the business of advertising parcels of good stamps at 50 per cent discount as a fraud. They announce their intention of giving practical proofs of their statements that the contents of these selections are mainly "damaged, nicked, heavily postmarked copies, and in general stamps of but little value." I was ridiculing this 50 per cent, business myself a few weeks since in a well-known dealer's office, but he assured me that it was not all bounce, and put a large collection into my hands and told me to pick where I liked at 50 per cent off Gibbons. But he admitted that if I wanted any of the finer class of stamps, such as Gold Coast, Gambia, Sierra Leone, &c., he would have to charge me full catalogue. Practically 50 per cent discount means a selections from stuff printed in millions which can never be worth much anyway.

LONDON, 14, December, 1898.

I have just received the "British Empire" portion of the Gibbons cataloge. I have scarcely looked into it much yet, but have seen enough to show me that reduction of medium class stuff is the order of the day, with many reductions also in some better stamps, but I also notice that numbers of good stamps have been advanced in price. Stamps, of which the stock is small, are creeping up, up, up, and no amount of jobbery by speculators will much effect the gradual increase of the value of such stamps. It is a simple matter to sum up the present situation as to prices. Certain stamps of certain countries have been hoarded by collectors and speculators for a rise, and they have been frightened into unloading by the West Indian lesson. Hence there is an abundance, an unexpected abundance, of certain classes of stamps. Small dealers have been raking in this stuff at their own prices and have been selling it at 50 per cent. under Gibbons. Now, Gibbons comes out with his reduced prices for this stuff, and thus endeth the 50 per cent. The market will receive a fresh impetus from the easing of prices, good stamps will gradually be absorbed, and in the course of a few months, probably long before another Gibbons is due, prices will once more be on the ascending scale.

It is to be hoped, however, that the insane, sudden high pricing of modern stamps that are merely suspected of being scarce will never again be resorted to, but that we shall have instead, in our leading catalogues, a faithful reflex of real, genuine rises in value. Nothing can be more detrimental to the stability of the trade in stamps than prices which represent the freaks and whims and fancies of a trade that allows itself to be the shuttlecock of carding speculators. It is folly to say that the trade cannot protect itself

from these gentry. It can. It knows perfectly well how and when these speculators get hold of an issue. Let it boycott rigorously all attempts to compel it to put fancy prices upon stuff, which, if it were allowed to come on the market in the usual manner, would never attain the fancy prices asked.

By common consent all the stamp journals here have given up publishing the prices realized for stamps at auction. It was felt all round that the prices were illusory unless they gave details as to the condition of the stamps sold. To get up such a list would involve more labor than anyone cared to give to it. Hence there is an end of the rule of auction prices.

Mails in Our Conquered Lands.

WITH THE NEW YEAR THERE WILL BE BIG CHANGES IN CUBA AND PORTO RICO.

From the *New York Sun*, Dec. 24, 1898.

After the New Year the portrait of Alfonso, the boy King of Spain, will not appear upon the postage stamps that are circulated in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands. Very soon after January 1, 1899, the United States authorities expect to be in full control of the postal systems of those islands and the regular United States postage stamps, with slight alterations, will then be used. The postal service in our new possessions is now undergoing a complete reformation and will soon be conducted entirely by Americans after the American system.

The latest American Post Office to be established in Alfonso's former colonies is that at Havana. Fifteen clerks sailed for there yesterday, and will soon have in operation an up-to-date office and free delivery system—something of a luxury for Cubans, who were obliged to pay a mail delivery fee when under the government of Spain. The clerks were taken from Post Offices throughout this country, two, Mr. Fox and Mr. Marchese, being taken from the General Post Office here. All are experts in their line. With the establishment of the Havana office there will be fourteen American Post Offices on Cuban soil. They include the offices at Santiago, Baiquiri, Guantanomo, Gibara, Holguin, Baracoa, Sagua de Tanamo, Songo, San Luis, and Manzanillo, in the province of Santiago; Puerto Principe, Nuevitas, and in another town in the province of Puerto Principe, and Cienfuegos, in the province of Santa Clara. These are manned by thirty-seven clerks from the General Post Office in this city, and by sixteen native Cubans. Among the latter are two carriers for the city of Santiago, which is a distinct innovation for that sleepy old town.

More clerks will be sent to Cuba from time to time and the system extended as rapidly as possible. The entire Cuban chain of offices is to be under the supervision of former Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Rathbone, who has been appointed "Director of Posts," with headquarters at Havana. In places where United States offices have not yet been estab-

lished, Spanish officials are still in charge and Spanish stamps are still used. Here, too, foreign rates of postage are in vogue, as is also the case at the American offices, with the exception of the rates for letters to and from soldiers, which are carried at the regular United States domestic rates. The latter rates will not become universal in the new territories until the United States postal authorities are in full control. Then probably some method of carrying the mails, other than the old Spanish horseback system, will be devised.

In Porto Rico there are at present twelve American Post Offices, which are connected with the General Post Office at Washington. The only two American Post Offices in the Philippines are at Manila and Cavité, and these are connected with the San Francisco General Post Office. In these islands the system will also be extended as rapidly as possible, although there is not so pressing need of it in the Philippines, where the natives have not as yet become addicted to the letter-writing habit to any great extent.

Up to the present the American Post Offices in the islands have been using the regular United States stamps, and more than \$15,000 worth have been sent to Cuba from the New York General Post Office alone. Naturally most of the letter-writing to this country has been done by soldiers, and the first offices established in the various islands were for their benefit. The regular United States issues will be continued in the colonial service, but in Cuba, during the term of Uncle Sam's military government, the one, two, five and ten cent denominations will bear the word "Cuba" and the equivalent value of the stamp in Spanish money.

In Hawaii no change has been made in the postal service, although a commission is now at work on the needs of the newly annexed republic. The old stamps are still used and the old system prevails.

From The Metropolitan Philatelist.

The Postmaster General has dispatched a commission to Cuba to investigate the postal system there, and to make changes as it deems necessary to conform to the new condition of things. This commission is to make preparations for an officer appointed by the Postmaster General, to be designated "the director of posts for Cuba," who will have complete control over postal affairs, subject to the orders of the Postmaster General, but who will be nominally under the U. S. military authorities. As the first step towards the accomplishment of this arrangement the Postmaster General has called upon the Secretary of the Treasury to submit designs to his approval for a new series of stamps to be used in Cuba after the new system is put into operation. As it will take some time to engrave the necessary plates for printing these stamps, the Postmaster General has directed that the U. S. stamps of four denominations be used temporarily, with the word "Cuba" surcharged in conspicuous type.

The Bureau has been ordered to prepare at once these stamps in the following quantities and denominations :

1c	2,000,000,
2c	5,000,000,
5c	1,000,000,
10c	200,000.

These 8,200,000 stamps aggregate in value \$190,000

The New Caledonia 10c of 1860.

BY THEODOR HAAS.

Translated from the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*.

There is probably no variety of stamp which, in Germany at least, was so unjustly in discredit as the oldest and in truth very primitive stamp of New Caledonia, the 10 centimes black with the head of Napoleon. What was said of it was about as follows:

Sergeant Triquéra was in charge of postal affairs in Port de France (Noumea); in order to get money he made a few stamps, drawing them upon a lithographic stone by means of a pointed nail, 50 stamps in five rows. The stamps were printed from this stone and were then put on the letters in place of the genuine French stamps, which he pocketed. To avoid detection he prepaid with his stamps only such letters as were intended for Australia; on those going to Europe and especially to France, on the other hand, he used the current French postage stamps. Finally, however, the matter came to light, Triquéra was arrested, transported to Paris with his stamps and the stone and there punished.

In France a different view prevailed; the New Caledonia stamp was regarded as good beyond question, which view the sequel proves was quite correct. Rondot, as early as 1865, in the *Magasin Pittoresque* tells the following about the stamp:

"In the year 1859, on account of the lack of small currency in the colony, the government of New Caledonia caused to be prepared, in Port de France, for prepayment of correspondence, postage stamps of the value of 10 centimes. A sergeant of the Marine Infantry named Triquéra, who was at that time "assistant lithographer" to the government, drew upon a lithographic stone fifty stamps, using the French stamp as a model. His drawing was approved and the first impression was struck off on Aug. 20th, 1859. By the end of 1860 the use of these stamps had almost ceased."

Even if everything does not tally, it seems that Rondot was, as usual, pretty well posted.

At first, this stamp must have been of the first order of rarity, for the *Timbre Poste* knew of but one specimen, while the *Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* tells that a complete sheet of 50 had been sold for 1,000 francs. On the strength of this, which became known in New Caledonia, search was made for more of the stamps and, as a matter of fact, several sheets were unearthed and sent to Paris. This circumstance exerted a powerfully depressing effect upon the price, so that soon but 25 francs, then 10 francs, then only the nominal price of 5 francs, the face value, could be obtained for a sheet.

As to the use of the stamp little was known, at most the remark was met with, that it was always found on the letters in company with a 6 pence New South Wales stamp—seldom cancelled; and that its circulation was of short duration.

Not until the January, 1893, number of his *Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* could Mr. A. Maury publish a few documents of official nature, which demonstrate, in unquestionable fashion, the right of the 10c New Caledonia to be

included in collections. The documents are taken from the *Moniteur Impérial de la Nouvelle-Caledonie et Dépendances*. The first, in No. 3, dated Sunday, Oct. 16th, 1859, reads:

UNOFFICIAL DIVISION.

NOTICE.

The post office administration takes pleasure in notifying the public that, beginning to day, the post office at No. 2 Rue Magenta will be open from 8 to 10 o'clock a. m. and 2 to 4 o'clock p.m., Sundays and holidays excepted. The mail for Sydney will close on the 24th of each month at 4 p. m. (postage may be prepaid at the post office). The mail for Napoleonville (Kamala) will close on the 7th and 22d of each month at 4 p. m.

NOTE.—The decime (=10 centimes) for each letter delivered or sent off through the post office, will be collected from January 1st, 1860, only.

Port de France, October 15th, 1859.

DESTREM.

In the same newspaper we find, in No. 12, Sunday, December 18th, 1859, the following additional information:

UNOFFICIAL DIVISION.

OBLIGATORY PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS AND NEWSPAPERS.

Letters intended for Europe and every other country, going by way of Australia and weighing not over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., will cost 6 pence. For every additional half-ounce or fraction thereof a further sum of sixpence is to be added.

NEWSPAPER PACKAGES FOR EUROPE,

VIA MARSEILLES.

Up to 2 oz., 2 pence, up to 4 oz., 4 pence, up to 8 oz., 8 pence, and so forth. Newspapers intended for Australia pay no tax.

Beginning January 1st, 1860, a tax of 1 decime (10 centimes) must be paid for each letter going through the post office at Port de France. Should the decime not be paid, the letters will not be forwarded to their destinations.

DESTREM.

Finally the following is to be read in No. 14 of the government organ, dated Sunday, January 1st, 1860:

UNOFFICIAL DIVISION.

Postage stamps of the colony may be procured of the postmaster at the price of 5fr. for 50. Fewer than 10 stamps will not be sold at one time.

To the above extracts from the *Moniteur Impérial* Mr. A. Maury, our aforementioned authority in the *Coll. de T. P.*, adds several notices which are of sufficient interest to be embodied in this article.

It should first be noted that it is impossible to confound the 10 centimes stamp, which was introduced in New Caledonia, January 1st, 1860, with the stamp of the same value of the earliest French Colonies issue, eagle type; for the latter series did not come into use in New Caledonia until April or May, 1862. This is proven by a letter of the French Minister of Marine, dated March 28th, 1862, in which he gives notice of the shipment of the "eagle" stamps to the penal colony, adding:

"I would ask you to see to it that in future all letters are prepaid by means of adhesive stamps. This manner of prepayment is both convenient for the public and useful, as a means of control, to the administration."

The official organ, *Le Moniteur Impérial*, several times mentioned, began its career on October 2d, 1859; there being no printing establishment, of any kind, in the colony, the newspaper was manifolded autographically until the end of 1861, at which time a printing office was established in Port de France. In spite of this every number bears the inscription : "Government Printing Office"; the name of the "printer" and of the responsible editor, Poincignon, who was a corporal in the infantry. His name is found for the last time in No. 49, of Sunday, September 2d, 1860; beginning with No. 50 it is replaced by that of L. Triquéra, who was a sergeant of infantry and who had made the plate with the 50 stamps.

As for Mr. Destrem, whose name is found at the foot of the above quoted notices, he was a second mate, held in Port de France the office of harbor-master, and had charge, in addition, of the forwarding of letters.

This information plainly shows that the German views concerning Triquéra were incorrect in any case; he had, it is true, in his capacity as "assistant government lithographer" produced the plate for the stamps, but he had nothing further to do with the stamps themselves, as he never had control of the letter post, but was printer and publisher of the *Moniteur*.

Mr. Maury illustrates in the *Coll. de T. P.* a very interesting letter, sent from Port de France to Martinique via Marseilles; it received first the cancellation "PORT DE FRANCE—NOUL CALÉDONIE—25 Mar. 1860." then a month later, on the 25 Ju(ne) 1860, on the reverse, the stamp "SHIP-LETTER SYDNEY"; upon its arrival in France, a quarter of a year later, the round stamp in red, "COL FRANÇ V. SUEZ AMB. 11 SEPT. 60" (Colones français s via Suez ambulant) was printed twice on the address side; and on the reverse, the black date stamp "BUREAU MARITIME, LE HAVRE 13 Sept. 60." Finally the arrival stamp "SAINT-PIERRE MARTINIQUE, 5 Nov. 1860," is to be mentioned, also that the New South Wales 6p shows the cancellation N. S. W., while on the contrary the New Caledonia 10c is uncancelled.

The *Coll. de T. P.* is of the opinion that the New Caledonia stamp does not exist cancelled, an opinion which the above described letter would support. I cannot, however, join in this view. It is of course, quite possible that the cancellation of stamps did not receive very careful attention in the post office at Port de France, seeing that the postmaster was in reality a second-mate, and that if he had one or two assistants, they were surely sailors or privates in the army.

Furthermore, I have before me a letter, unfortunately much cut up, upon which the New Caledonia s.amp bears the cancellation—not a clear impression—"P. P." or "P. D." in the right corner. The forwarding cancellation is the same as that described above, the date being March 23, 1861; the Sydney date stamp is of April 6th, '61, and the 6p stamp of New South Wales bears the cancellation "N. S. W." in a triple oval.

Involuntarily, upon reading the foregoing, the question "were any of the 10c stamps, which we are discussing, circulated in New Caledonia?" forces itself upon the philatelist. I should like to assume: none at all; probably the out-going mail was prepaid and the stamps of New South Wales affixed later in Sydney. But, upon closer examination of the envelope illustrated, we must almost incline to the opinion that the New South Wales stamps necessary for prepayment were affixed in Port de France, that is to say, in New Caledonia. For the 6p stamp is in the left corner while the New Caledonia is next to it, the second stamp from the edge. It is hardly

to be supposed that the latter was placed in the middle of the letter in order to leave the corner place for the New South Wales stamp.

The notice in the *Moniteur*, Oct. 16th, '59, mentioned above, stating that letters may be prepaid at the post office, is also to be noted. As the 10c stamp was at that time not yet in existence, this communication must have referred to some other stamps, which could only have been those of New South Wales. This possibility is very strong since, in addition, this notice is found directly beneath the news that the mails for Sydney close on the 24th of each month.

Perhaps Mr. Maury will succeed in finding satisfactory answers to these not unimportant questions also.

The Manchester Philatelic Exhibition.

We publish herewith the prospectus and rules of the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition, which is to be held at Manchester in July of this year, and we would strongly advise American collectors to be well represented. The management of the Exhibition is in the best of hands, and we feel certain that they will make a great success of the affair.

We do not publish the classes of the competitions, but full information in regard to these, as well as in regard to the prizes, may be obtained at the Exhibition Committee rooms, 2 Cooper St., Manchester, England.

PROSPECTUS.

Few pursuits have undergone greater changes or seen more extensive developments in recent times than that of Philately, which from being almost entirely monopolised thirty or forty years ago by schoolboys, now occupies the serious attention of collectors of all ages and all classes, in every part of the civilised world.

This was amply demonstrated by the general enthusiasm aroused by the London Exhibition of 1897, and as the unparalleled success of that undertaking convinces the members of the Manchester Philatelic Society that the time is fully ripe for one of a similar nature in this City, they have decided, after careful consideration of ways and means, to hold an Exhibition of an International character in June next.

It will consist of specimens of the Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Post Cards, Wrappers, &c., of the whole world, Proofs, Essays, and other Objects of Interest connected with Philately and the Postal Service, as well as Albums, Books, and Philatelic Appliances of every description.

It will be opened on Thursday, June 29th, 1899, and it is hoped that the numerous promises of support which the Committee have received from many eminent collectors at home and abroad, will be so augmented as to make the Exhibition thoroughly representative of Philately in all its phases.

The Committee have obtained the use of the Manchester City Art Gallery, which possesses the advantages of ample space and good light from above, without the risk of undue exposure to the rays of the sun, as well as a commanding position in a leading thoroughfare in the centre of the City, and is therefore in every way most suitable for an Exhibition of Stamps.

All the stamps will be shown under glass in locked or sealed frames and cases, and every possible precaution will be taken to ensure the security o

the Exhibits, including the employment of day and night watchmen, but no personal responsibility will be undertaken by the Committee.

The provisions against risk by fire or theft are specially mentioned in the Rules and Regulations which follow, and to these the attention of intending Exhibitors is particularly drawn.

Special arrangements will be made for the passage through the Customs of Exhibits from foreign countries without risk of damage.

The Exhibition will remain open to the public for one week, a charge being made for admission, which will afford a better opportunity for supervision by the members of the Committee, (two of whom at least will always be in attendance during the time that the Exhibition is so open), thus securing additional safety.

The Exhibits will be returned to their owners as soon as possible after the close of the Exhibition.

To facilitate the work of the Committee and to assist them in the preparation of the Official Catalogue, Exhibitors are earnestly requested to send full particulars of their Exhibits as early as possible before the date stipulated in the Regulations.

In the scheme of the Exhibition which will be found below, the Committee wish to draw attention to the fact that whilst every provision has been made to secure keen competition amongst advanced specialists, the interests of general collectors have been carefully protected. It is with the first object in view that more divisions have been made in the Prospectus than was the case in London, and for the latter purpose that certain favourite and most difficult countries have been introduced twice; in the first instance as a country complete, which the advanced specialists can exhibit, and secondly, after omitting the earlier and usually rarer issues, for the benefit of those who specialise in these countries but are not strong enough in such issues to compete with collectors of the first rank.

The Exhibition will be subject to the following Rules and Regulations of which all Exhibitors will be held to have had notice.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1.—Exhibits in Classes I., II., and III. must be mounted on cards or loose pages. Although no special size of cards or other material is obligatory, it is hoped that Exhibitors who mount their stamps specially for the Exhibition will as far as possible endeavour to assist the Committee in securing uniformity, for the sake of economising the space at their disposal. This object will be attained by the use of cards of the following sizes, viz., 10 inches by 9 inches or 9½ inches by 11½ inches, and, if desired, cards measuring 9½ inches by 11½ inches can be supplied on application to the Secretary at a trifling cost. The sizes in centimetres will be 25½ by 22¾ or 24½ by 28 1-5. The size of the frames will be 40 inches by 36 inches (inside measurement), so that each frame will carry 16 sheets 10 inches by 9 inches, and 12 sheets 9½ inches by 11½ inches.

2.—A charge for space will be made on the following scale:—

For each frame or part of frame occupied in Classes I. and II.	4sh.
For each Exhibit in Class III.	5sh.
For each album or volume shown in Classes IV., V., VI., VIII. and IX.	5sh.
For each Exhibit in Class X.	5sh.
Class XI. Charge will be made according to nature	

and size of Exhibit.....(minimum charge, 2/6)
 Class VII. No charge will be made.

Arrangements have been made by the Committee for insurance against loss by fire or theft of Exhibits while in the custody of the Committee, either before or during the continuance of the Exhibition and after the close of the Exhibition, until despatched for return to the owners. An inclusive charge of 2/6 will be made for each £100 insured. Owners of Exhibits desiring to insure, and paying the prescribed amount, will have the benefit of the policy effected by the Committee to the extent of the value at which such Exhibits are accepted for insurance, but no personal liability is in any event incurred by the Committee in regard to loss.

The charge for space and insurance (if any) will be payable by the Exhibitor on sending in his Exhibit.

All Exhibits will be returned free of charge to their owners by post or otherwise, but transmission will in all cases be at the sole risk of the owner, insurance in course of transit (if any) being paid by him.

3.—Notice of the nature and extent of the Exhibits, with the value for insurance, should be sent to the Secretary as early as possible, *but not later than the 1st May, 1899*, on the accompanying form.

4.—All Exhibits must be delivered, post or carriage paid, between the 5th and 8th June, 1899, addressed to the Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition, at the Safe Deposit Company, Chapel Walks, Manchester. Punctuality in delivery is particularly desired, to ensure accurate description of the Exhibits in the Official Catalogue.

5.—The right of refusing any Exhibit without assigning any reason for such refusal, is reserved by the Committee, as also the right of showing such part of any Exhibit as the Committee may decide, in case of there being insufficient space available for showing the whole.

6.—All Exhibits entered for competition must be *bona-fide* the property of the Exhibitor. Joint collections must be shown in the joint names or firm name, as the case may be, but no combination made solely for the purposes of the Exhibition can be admitted for competition.

7.—Albums and volumes of stamps will be exhibited open at the most interesting pages, to be varied from time to time during the Exhibition by a member of the Committee. No albums will be allowed to be inspected (except by the Judges) without the written permission of the owner and at his risk, and then only in the presence of a member of the Committee.

8.—No price or other notification that it is for sale may be affixed to any Exhibit. No Exhibit can be removed before the close of the Exhibition.

9.—The Judges will be appointed by the Executive Committee, and their decision will in all cases be final. They will be seven in number, of whom it is proposed that three at least shall be chosen from representatives of foreign countries.

10.—No Exhibits by any of the Judges can be entered for competition.

11.—The following scheme of competition has been adopted by the Committee; but all Exhibits which the owners may desire to enter as "Not for Competition" will be so marked in the several classes in which they may be shown. *In making their awards the Judges will be requested to take into special consideration, not only the rarity and completeness of the Exhibit, but also the neatness and accuracy of arrangement, method of mounting and condition of the specimens submitted, and the Philatelic knowledge displayed by the Exhibitor.*

Puerto Rico.

BY J. M. ANDREINI.

Through the kindness of my old friend, Mr. N. Morera, of San Juan, P. R., I can now give the official quantities and denominations of stamps of this island surcharged "Habilitado para 1898-1899," also the words of the decree authorizing the surcharge.

The text of the decree reads :

**ADMINISTRACION CENTRAL.
de Contribuciones y Rentas de la Isla de
PUERTO RICO.**

CIRCULAR.

El Ilmo. Sr. Secretario del Despacho de Hacienda, á propuesta de este Centro, se ha servido disponer que los sellos de comunicaciones, los de giro, los de pólizas de seguros y títulos de acciones de Bancos y Sociedades, y los de Aduana, correspondientes al bienio de 1896 y 1897 se habiliten en la cantidad que sea necesaria para el consumo en el actual bienio de 1898 y 1899, cuya operación se hará por medio de un sello de goma que diga ; "1898 y 1899."

Lo que por disposición de S. S. I. se inserta en la Gaceta Oficial para general conocimiento.

Puerto Rico 4 de Junio de 1898
El Admor. Central
NICOLAS DAUBON.

This decree which appeared in the official gazette of June 7th, 1898 (No. 133) may be translated substantially as follows :

**CENTRAL TAX AND REVENUE OFFICE,
ISLAND OF PUERTO RICO.**

CIRCULAR.

The Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, as suggested by this office, has ordered that such quantities of postage, bill of exchange, insurance policy, bank share and custom fee stamps of the years 1896-97 as may be necessary for the bi-ennial consumption, be made good for of the years 1898-1899 by means of a rubber stamp with "1898 y 1899."

This order must be published in the Official Gazette, etc., etc.

(Signed)

NICOLAS DAUBON.

The following is an official list of postage stamps surcharged June 8th, 1898 "Habilitado para 1898 y 1899."

200,000 of 1 milésima	300,000 of 5 centavos
200,000 of 2 milésimas	300,000 of 6 "
500,000 of 4 "	70 000 of 8 "
100,000 of 1 centavo	50,000 of 20 "
300,000 of 2 centavos	25,000 of 40 "
300,000 of 3 "	6,500 of 80 "
1,000,000 of 4 "	

My friend has been authorized to say that officially no other stamps have been surcharged in San Juan, Puerto Rico, since 1873; that the so called "Provisionales" are fraudulent; that the changes in value, other than the changes to 2 and 5 centavos on the War Tax Stamps, are likewise fraudulent; and that the surcharged 4 milésimas on the 5 milésimas 1898-99 type is the greatest fraud of all.

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue for 1899.

PART I.

STAMPS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The new Gibbons' catalogue having just been received, there will not be time for a careful review by the date of the appearance of this Journal. The character of the arrangement is very similar to that of the previous editions, except that the illustrations are somewhat worse, if that is possible, than they were last year. In some cases we find four different sizes of illustrations representing stamps of the same issue and of the same natural size; and again we find half-tones, ordinary reproductions, and re drawn cuts side by side. We are rather surprised that our English friends should be content to remain so far behind the American catalogues in this respect.

The illustrations are, however, of minor importance, the prices being the most interesting portion of such a work, for they are expected to serve as a standard of value for some time at least. The fluctuations in the stamp market during the past year or two have been most marked in the British Colonial issues, and these fluctuations are duly reflected in the catalogue before us, being indicated, in most cases, by decreases in prices. While a great many of these corrections are fully justified by existing market conditions, in many cases the reductions have been, in our opinion, far too radical, for before three months are past the publishers of the catalogue will be refusing a large proportion of the orders tendered them on the basis of this catalogue. The fact that one or two specimens of any particular stamp have been sold at auction or have changed hands at private sale, at a certain figure, certainly does not establish a standard for a catalogue quotation. The prices indicated show the very lowest ebb of the stamp market, and the improvement which is already apparent and which will gain headway during the next three or four months, will leave the prices, now intended to be set as standards, far in the rear, and corrections in the nature of advances will soon be in order.

The appearance of this volume (I) of the new Gibbons' catalogue confirms us only more strongly in the correctness of the position which we ourselves assumed, when we decided not to publish a catalogue this season. Had we issued a catalogue our quotations would, in many cases, have remained far above those of our English contemporary and, while it might have appeared to some that we were not sufficiently radical, a few months of active stamp trade would soon have convinced the public that we were correct and Gibbons wrong. At the same time it would have been decidedly disagreeable to us to have appeared as attempting to maintain a standard of values higher than the actual condition of the stamp market would justify.

The Imperial Penny Postal Union.

Great Britain and its colonies, or, at least, the greater part of them, have taken an enormous forward step in facilitating and increasing international correspondence. Beginning on December 25th, 1898, the inhabitants of the mother country, and such of the colonies as have signified their adhesion to the scheme, will enjoy the privilege of sending a half oz. letter, fully prepaid, to any one of the colonies which forms part of the agreement, for the modest sum of 2 cents, the same price for which a letter would be sent from one part of a city in the United States to another.

In view of the amicable relations existing at present between Great Britain and the United States, it is hoped that our country will soon join the Penny Postal Union, and we sincerely hope that we may, before long, enjoy this great privilege.

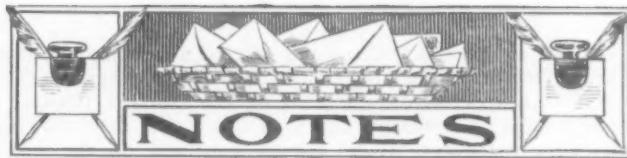
The countries that have agreed to the new postal policy are the following: Canada, Cyprus, British East Africa, Uganda, Zanzibar, British Central Africa, the Niger Coast Protectorate, the Niger Company's territory, Hong Kong, India, the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, the Seychelles, Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, Lagos, Gibraltar, St. Helena, Fiji, Falkland Islands, Turks Island, Tobago, Trinidad, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Antigua, St. Christopher, Nevis, Dominica, Montserrat, Newfoundland, and the Virgin Islands.

Auction Sales.

The revival in the stamp business, to which we have referred editorially, will make itself strongly felt in the auction field, and we are able to begin our 1899 season with the sale of the magnificent collection of Mr. Raymond Lesher, of New York, which is replete with rarities of all kinds. The collection is particularly strong in the issues of the United States, containing such stamps as the high values of the State Department, in superb condition, and many others, too numerous to mention. This sale will be held on February 1st, 2d and 3d, and will be followed by other collections almost equally fine.

Catalogues sent free to all who will apply for them by sending us their names and addresses.





FRANCE.—A number of correspondents have called to our attention the fact that the sheets of 10 centimes stamps of the present issue are composed part of type I and part of type II.

We illustrate below how these types are found in panes of 25; the sheets consisting of 300 stamps but being sold at the post office in half sheets—150 stamps.

TYPES : II

II

I

I

TYPES : II

II

I

I

TYPES : I

I

I

I

(Each block representing 25 stamps).

200 stamps of type I and 100 of type II will therefore be found on each sheet; or 50 of type I and 100 of type II on the left half sheet, and type I exclusively on the right half sheet. The sheet bears the number 8 (1898) and, below, P. 106, 606 or 706 meaning the 1st, 6th or 7th of the 6th month, June.—*Le Timbre Poste*.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The four lines of imprint on wrappers are to be permitted to disappear. They have been found useless. It has taken a long time to discover this.—*Le Timbre Poste*.



LABUAN.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., have offered us a complete sheet of the 1 cent lilac Jubilee stamps, bearing on the 77th stamp the error (?) "Jebilee" for "Jubilee." As this error did not exist on the sheets of 1896 we have examined these stamps more closely and have discovered the following:

Formerly the surcharge "1846" always appeared on the head of the young native chief, while now this date is found on the body; the ink, instead of being a rusty black, is intensely black, and the characters are broader than before on account of an extra heavy impression.

It is therefore certain that there is fraud somewhere, and that the stamps offered us are recent reprints "in spite of the attestation that the composition for the surcharge had been destroyed," an attestation which had been given to these same Messrs Buhl & Co., who could without doubt explain the mystery of these stamps.—*Le Timbre Poste*.

In our next number we may have something further to say about these stamps.



It is said that St. Vincent is to discard the type which has distinguished its stamps since it first introduced prepayment by means of postage stamps, and that a new set of the tiresome De la Rue type is to appear in January.



The *Timbre Poste* announces the surcharge "*Habilitado—17—Octubre—1898*," on various stamps of Puerto Rico of the issues from 1891 to 1896. As the United States assumed the government of the island on that date, and the old stamps were no longer admitted to use for prepayment of correspondence, these surcharges can have no philatelic value. They may prove of interest as souvenirs of the transfer of authority from Spain to the United States, but the stamp catalogues will surely not recognize them as collectible varieties.

The varieties and numbers surcharged are as follows :

½m violet (1896), carmine surcharge	(10,000)
1m lilac brown (1896), carmine surcharge	(5,000)
2m yellow green (1896) "	(5,000)
4m blue green (1896), black surcharge	(2,000)
5c green (1891) "	(1,500)
8c brown (1891), carmine	" (1,000)
10c violet rose (1891), black	" (1,000)
20c mauve (1891), carmine	" (700)
40c salmon (1896), black	" (100)
80c black (1897), carmine	" (150)



The *Timbre Poste* states that Ecuador will have an entire new outfit of

postal values during the coming year. The varieties to be issued will consist of adhesives, telegraphs, officials, unpaid letters, envelopes, wrappers and cards. Let us hope that a sufficient supply will be provided so that the tiresome surcharges of this country will soon be at an end.



In assorting a lot of Dutch Indies Unpaid Letter stamps of the first issue, we find a 20c which is perforated 12 all around. This is a variety which does not appear to have been catalogued up to the present time.



The *Anales de la Sociedad Filatélica Santiago*, (Chile), states that the current set of Unpaid Letter Stamps is to be increased by the addition of a 30 centavos stamp. It is also said that the 6 and 8c values, announced by us, have not been issued.



PUERTO RICO. A number of the stamps of this island were surcharged INPUESTO DE GUERRA during the war between the United States and Spain, the stamps being attached to letters in payment of the war tax imposed on correspondence by Spain. We have hitherto refused to recognize these stamps in our catalogue as they were purely fiscal in character and served no postal purpose. However, between the time of the signing of the protocol which ended hostilities, on August 12th, and the final transfer of the island, on October 17th., to the sovereignty of the United States, Puerto Rico stamps of all kinds were accepted in full prepayment of postage and the surcharges referred to were included among those so accepted. Many of them were used during this period, on letters addressed to all parts of the world and they must now be recognized as worthy of a place in stamp collections. In previous numbers of our Journal we have given complete lists of these issues.



A correspondent informs us of the following varieties in recent issues of Hayti stamps :

1891, 5 cents, large and small figures of value.

" Accent on "T" of "CENT" in all values.

" " " " E " " " "

Hyphen between "Q" and "U" of "REPUBLIQUE" in all values. With accents there is one of each in every sheet of 100, and with hyphen, eight in every sheet.

1893-95, 7 cents, thick and thin paper and 2 shades of red.

1893-95, Re-engraved. Full stop after "T" in "CENT" in all values. These are found in the third and eighth line of each sheet.

1893-95, 3 cents, imperforate vertically, with and without stop after "T" (in pairs or otherwise, as I have a full sheet).

1893-95, 7 cents, double perforation horizontally.

1898, 2 cents, double perforation vertically.

5 " large perforation horizontally at the bottom.

We illustrate the 20 cents, China, chronicled in our December number.



BRAZIL. *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* states that all the stamps of the current issue of adhesives and newspaper stamps are to be surcharged with a value approximately double that of the original reading. The 200 on 100 was announced in our last number, and the remaining surcharges are to be as follows :

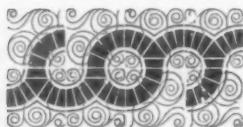
50r on	20r
100r "	50r
500r "	200r
700r "	300r
1000r "	500r
1000r "	700r
2000r "	1000r



Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste states that a new value of 70 centimes is to be issued in Switzerland for postal packets, although its use for ordinary mail matter will also be permitted



BRAZIL.—The 200 Unpaid Letter stamp of the current issue comes in two distinct colors, the one being gray lilac and the other a deep purple. Our catalogue calls the stamp violet, whereas the original shade was gray lilac.





UNITED STATES.—The current set of Documentary revenue stamps has been enriched by the addition of a \$30.00 value, of the same design as the other dollar values.

Mr. Edward H. Wells has shown us a Frazer local, our type L130b, printed in blue. We are under the impression that a specimen of this stamp was shown us some time ago, but we must have omitted to note it at the time, as we have not previously chronicled it.

Local stamp.
Fraz r & Co.
2c black, blue, type L130b
Revenue stamp.
Documentary,
Watermarked U. S. I. R.
Rouletted 5 $\frac{3}{4}$.
\$30.00 red

AFGHANISTAN.—The *Monthly Journal* has been shown what appears to be a registration stamp of the issue of 1893. It has a solid ground like type A19, in our catalogue, but the inscription of type RS1.

Registration stamp.
Imperforate.
2 abasi black, magenta

Austrian Post Offices in the Levant.—The current issue is appearing in a small perforation, gauging 13 all around. Thus far we have seen only two values, but presume that the others will follow before long.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 13.
20pa on 5kr rose
1pi on 10kr ultramarine

BAHAMAS.—The *Monthly Journal* has received the 1 shilling stamp in a blue green shade, entirely different from the color previously in use.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked Crown and C A.
Perforated 14.
1s blue green

BELGIUM.—The *Timbre Poste* states that the 50 centimes stamp, which was recently issued in gray, has been changed to black in order to avoid possible confusion, by gaslight, with the 20 centimes value.

Adhesive stamp.
Perforated 14.
50c black

BRITISH EAST AFRICA.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has received the 1 anna of Zanzibar with surcharge "British East Africa" in red instead of black.

Adhesive stamp.
Watermarked a flower.
Perforated.
1a black blue and red, red surcharge,
on Zanzibar

BULGARIA.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* chronicles four stamps of Bulgaria somewhat altered in execution: the 5 stot in yellow green on thick white paper, perf 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ (formerly perf. 13); the 10 stot, issued since 1894 on thin paper, now printed on thick paper and contrariwise the 15 and 25 stot now on thin paper.

Adhesive stamps.
Perforated 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.
5 stot yellow green on thick paper

- Perf. 13.
 10 stot dull red, on thick paper
 15 " ochre, on thin paper
 25 " dull blue, on thin paper
-

CANADA.—The new 2c stamp, which is issued to meet the requirements of the Imperial Penny Postage Federation, has made its appearance somewhat earlier than was anticipated, as it was not expected on the market until Christmas

The illustration will show that the design is a somewhat pretentious one, although it falls far short of our idea of beauty and grace. The inscription in the bottom label is rather vain-glorious, but the truth of it will excuse it in a measure, and we suppose that we shall simply have to smile at it. The British possessions are printed in red. Two different colors of the back ground have already appeared.

A correspondent has called our attention to a wrapper which we have not, as yet, chronicled. It bears the 1 cent maple leaf type of stamp printed in green.

Adhesive stamp.



- Perforated 12.
 2c black, carmine and lavender
 2c black, carmine and pale blue
Wrapper.
 Size: 124x273mm.
 1c blue green, straw
-

DENMARK.—The *London Philatelist* now chronicles the 8 skilling of the 1870 issue, perf. 12½, so that the entire set, with the exception of the 16 skilling, is now known in this gauge.

The same Journal also mentions a 2 skilling official stamp of 1871, with

the same perforation, and states that this value must be added to the already known 4 and 16s. Thus far we have chronicled only the 16s, and therefore have three novelties to add to the list.

- Adhesive stamp, 1870 issue.*
 Perforated 12½.
 8s brown and gray
Official stamps, 1871 issue.
 Perforated 12½.
 2s blue
 4s carmine
-

ECUADOR.—The 50c lilac revenue stamp, after suffering a surcharge reducing it from its high estate to a 5c value, has been somewhat elevated by a 20c surcharge, which exists both in red and black, at least so says the *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

- Official stamps.*
 Provisional issue.
 Perforated.
 20c on 50c lilac (Revenue), black surcharge
 20c on 50c lilac (Revenue), red surcharge
-

FERNANDO PO.—The *Revue Philatélique Francaise* chronicles the Revenue stamp of 1898 of the value of 10 centavos, of the same type as our A6, surcharged "HABILITADO PARA CORREO 15C-DE PESO," for postal use. The surcharge exists in black and blue.

- Adhesive stamps.*
 Provisional Issue.
 Imperforate.
 15c on 10c green (Revenue), black surcharge
 15c on 10c green (Revenue), blue surcharge
-

GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA.—The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* has been informed by Dr. Lindenbergs that the surcharge on the stamps of this colony has been changed by the omission of the hyphen between SUDWEST and AFRIKA, the compound now being spelt as one word.

Adhesive stamps.

Perforated 14x13½.

Black Surcharge.

3pf brown

5pf green

10pf carmine

20pf blue

25pf orange

50pf red brown

Postal Cards.

5pf green

10pf carmine

5x5pf green, T₃10x10pf carmine, T₃

GUATEMALA.—It appears that the shortage in 6c stamps still exists, and that further surcharging has had to be resorted to, in order to supply the deficiency. The Revenue stamps of high values have now been called into requisition, but we are informed that a full supply of the regular stamps is on the way, and that there is but little likelihood of further surcharging being indulged in for the present.

Adhesive stamps.

Provisional issue.

Perforated.

6c on 1 peso purple, black surcharge

6c " 5 pesos grey violet " "

6c " 10 pesos dark emerald green, black surcharge

We are also informed that the following quantities were issued of each of the Provisionals of this year:

1c on 5c postage,	100,000
1c " 25c,	30,000
1c " 5c,	50,000
1c " 75c,	50,000
6c " 5c,	100,000
6c " 10c,	10,000
6c " 20c,	20,000
6c " 100c,	20,000
6c " 150c,	20,000
6c " 200c,	20,000
10c " 20c,	20,000
1c " large revenue stamp,	150,000
2c " 1c large rev. stamp,	110,000
1c " 10c small " "	150,000
2c " 1c, " " "	40,000
2c " 5c, " " "	103,500
2c " 10c, " " "	22,200

2c " 25c, small rev. stamp, 14,300

2c " 50c, " " 10,000

6c " 1 peso, " " 20,000

6c " 5 pesos, " " 10,000

6c " 10 " " 10,000

INDIA, Jhind.—The *Timbre Poste* says that the rupee stamp has been surcharged SERVICE in black, for official use.

Official stamp.

Watermarked star.

Perforated 14.

1r carmine & green, black surcharge

MEXICO.—In addition to the values chronicled in November, on unwatermarked paper, we have received the following from Mr. Chapman.

Adhesive stamps.

No Watermark.

Perforated.

4c orange

10c rose lilac

12c olive

15c blue green

20c brown lilac

50c violet

1p brown

10p deep blue

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The 2c stamp with the portrait of the Prince of Wales, in the Postal Union color, has now been issued. The design is exactly the same as that of the 2c orange, the stock of which is now exhausted.

Adhesive stamp.

Perforated 12.

2c vermillion red

PERU.—We have received four postal cards, the general design of which is extremely simple, but each is adorned with the picture of some prominent place in Lima, and we understand that each value exists with many different varieties of these illustrations.

The card is inscribed at the left "Correos del Peru—Tarjeta Postale", at the right a head embossed without

color, "1899" above, "Un (dos, tres, cuatro) centavos below.

Postal cards.

Size: 142x90mm.

1c	white,	date and value in violet
2c	" "	" red
3c	" "	" black
4c	" "	" brown

RUSSIA.—A peculiar sort of letter sheet has been issued here for the benefit of the charitable institutions of the Empress Marie. It consists of a double sheet in quarto size with advertisements on each page, and space for a letter on the first, second and third pages. One quarter of the last page is reserved for the address, with the impression of a 7 kopec stamp, and also with an inscription which we are unable to read, as it is in the Russian language.

This letter sheet is sold to the public at 5 kopecs, and the proceeds of the advertisements will make up the remaining 2 kopecs due on the stamp, as well as leave a considerable margin for the benefit of the charitable institutions.

Letter sheet.

Size: 427x295mm.

7 kopecs blue, inscriptions in red and blue on the reverse.

URUGUAY.—Before the completion of the supply of a 5 milesimos ($\frac{1}{2}$ c) stamp, which was ordered locally, in order to provide for the recently reduced rate on newspapers, four surcharges had to be resorted to, in addition to the two which have been previously chronicled by us.

The following stamps have been drawn upon in order to supply the demand:

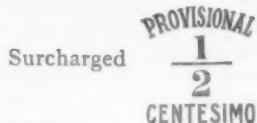
- 1c Jubilee Issue of 1896
- 2c blue of 1895
- 5c Jubilee Issue of 1896
- 7c green of 1895

A locally printed 5 milesimos stamp has also now appeared, and it is to be hoped that the recent flood of

Provisionals is at an end. The new stamp is lithographed by the Oriental Printing and Lithographing Co. of Montevideo.

Adhesive stamps.

Provisional issue.



Surcharged

$\frac{1}{2}$

CENTESIMO

Perforated 15.

1/2c on 1c brown violet and black of 1896

1/2c on 2c blue of 1895

1/2c on 5c blue and black of 1896

1/2c on 7c green of 1895

Regular issue.



Perforated 11 1/2.

5c carmine rose

ZANZIBAR.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has seen copies of the Zanzibar on India 1a, 1 1/2a and 2a surcharged "2 1/2" in red. The types are the same as used for the 2 1/2 on 1a in black. Not all the types have been seen on each value, but they must exist if any of the stamps are genuine.

Adhesive stamps.

Watermarked star.

Perforated 14.

2 1/2a on 1a plum, red surcharge, 3 types

2 1/2a on 1a 6p bistre, red surcharge, 3 types

2 1/2a on 2a blue, red surcharge, 3 types

National Philatelic Society.

OFFICERS FOR 1898.

President, ALBERT PERRIN,
125 East 23d Street.
Vice-President, GEO. R. TUTTLE.
Treasurer, R. R. BOGERT,
154 Nassau Street.

Secretary, W. S. SCOTT,
351 4th Avenue.
Exchange Manager, M. C. BERLEPSCH
Librarian, THOS. J. O'KEEFE.

Entertainment { GEO. R. TUTTLE,
J. N. LUFF,
J. M. ANDREINI.
Finance { M. C. BERLEPSCH,
W. S. SCOTT,
W. F. GREGORY.

COMMITTEES.

<i>House</i>	{ THOS. J. O'KEEFE, J. W. GEORGE, J. N. T. LEVICK,
<i>Membership</i>	{ F. E. P. LYNDE, Jos. S. RICH, P. F. BRUNER.

December 13, 1898.

The 357th meeting of the National Philatelic Society was called to order at 8.45 P. M. The President in the chair.

Present: Messrs. Andreini, Bogert, George, Gregory, Rich, Tuttle, Weed and Williams.

In the absence of the Secretary, the President appointed Mr. Rich to act as Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and, on motion, approved.

Mr. Andreini stated that he desired not to be a candidate for the Presidency of the Society.

Mr. George exhibited his collection of United States stamps, and Mr. Weed showed specimens of sample stamps for the 1890 issue of United States.

Adjourned 9.30.

Jos. S. RICH, *Secretary pro tem.*

December 27, 1898.

The 358th meeting of the National Philatelic Society was called to order at 8.15 P.M. by the President.

Members present, Messrs. Andreini, Gregory, Perrin, George, O'Keefe, Tuttle, Luff, Williams, Klemann, Berlepsch, Bruner, Bogert, Krassa and W. S. Scott. As visitor Mr. C. H. Eagle.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Albert Perrin reported that the Committee on Nominations had made the following selections:

For President, Mr. J. M. Andreini; Treasurer, Mr. Max. Meyenberg; Secretary, W. S. Scott; Trustees, P. F. Bruner, Albert Perrin, J. N. T. Levick, W. F. Gregory.

The report of the officers being in order, the President called attention to the indifference of the members during the past year and urged upon all present to put forth their best endeavors for the ensuing year.

Mr. W. F. Gregory read the Treasurer's report together with the report of the Finance Committee. The Treasurer's accounts were audited and found correct.

The annual Election of officers was the next business and Mr. Andreini appointed Messrs. Luff and Williams tellers. Mr. Andreini respectfully declined a renomination and Mr. Perrin's name was substituted; as was also Mr. Bogert's in place of Mr. Meyenberg.

The result of the election was announced by the tellers as follows : President, Mr. Albert Perrin; Treasurer, Mr. R. R. Bogert; Secretary, Mr. W. S. Scott; Trustees, Messrs. P. F. Bruner, J. M. Andreini, J. N. T. Levick, W. F. Gregory, Thomas J. O'Keefe.

Philately being the last order of business the members enjoyed the inspection of the collections of Messrs. Eagle, Berlepsch and George. A vote of thanks was extended to the kind exhibitors.

Adjourned 10.15 P. M.

WALTER S. SCOTT, *Secretary.*

The Collectors Club,

351 FOURTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK.

Thirty-second Meeting of the Governors held at the Club House, December 12, 1898.

Called to order at 8.25 P. M. by Vice-President Bruner, the following Governors being present : Calman, Luff, Scott, Stebbins and the Secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read letters from Messrs. Deats, Perozo and Gibson, and was instructed to reply to one of them.

Upon motion of the Secretary, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the thanks of the Governors were extended to the publishers of the following philatelic papers, which have been received free during the past year and displayed in the assembly room for the use of the members :

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.
Metropolitan Philatelist.
Weekly Philatelic Era.
Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal.
Phil. Journal of Great Britain.
Phil. Chronicle and Advertiser.
Stamp Auction Reporter.
AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.
Phil. Monthly and World.
Eastern Philatelist.
Virginia Philatelist.
Perforator (up to June).
International Philatelist.
Filatelic Facts and Fallacies.
Boston Stamp Book.
Postal Card Bulletin.
Evergreen State Philatelist.

Treasurer's report was then received showing a balance in Bank \$541.32, exclusive of U. S. bonds.

The Committee on Piano purchase reported progress.

The Chairman of House Committee made his report, which was received.

After an informal discussion on the subject of new quarters and further accommodation for the members, the Treasurer was appointed a Committee on lease of new house, and the meeting adjourned at 9.30 P. M.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*

Staten Island Philatelic Society.

158th meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society held Nov. 16, 1898 at Loescher's Hotel, Stapleton, S. I., N. Y.

The meeting was called to order at 8.30 p. m.

Present at the opening of the meeting, President Aug. Dejonge in the chair, Messrs Oscar Dejonge, Adolph Lienhardt, A. R. Richter, E. Angell, R. T. Lehman, R. F. Benary and J. W. Sittig.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read.

The committee on Constitution and By-Laws reports that the revised copies of the Constitution were ready for distribution. Mr. Benary moved that the Committee be discharged with thanks. Carried.

Mr. Krauth sent his photograph for the Photo. Album, which was received with thanks.

Letters from our members Mr. Julius Niedermeyer and Rev. Chas. H. Jones were read. Mr. Neidermeyer is on his way home from China and sends his regards to all members.

Mr. Witt sends counterfeits for the Counterfeit Album, Mr. Dejonge presents No. 95 of the *Revue Philatélique*. Thanks are tendered to the kind donors.

Mr. Benary moved that the resignation of Mr. Aug. Lehmann, Jr. tendered some time ago, be accepted with regret. Carried.

Mr. Lehman proposed the nomination Mr. J. W. Sittig for Vice President, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. R. F. Albrecht. Mr. Sittig was unanimously nominated and elected.

Adjournment followed at 9.35 P. M., when Mr. Aug. Dejonge showed his almost complete collection of the handsome postal cards of Peru and Salvador and Messrs. Oscar Dejonge and A. H. Benary their fine U. S. Mr. Oscar Dejonge is especially strong in Match and Medicine, prime condition.

ROBT. S. LEHMAN, *Secretary.*

Birmingham Philatelic Exhibition.

December 7th to December 9th, 1898.

LIST OF EXHIBITORS AND THE CHIEF EXHIBITS.

W. Dorning Beckton (Manchester). The collection of Greek stamps which was awarded the silver medal of the L. P. Exhibition.

J. Bernichon (Paris). 1d and 2d "Post Office" Mauritius.

T. Buhl (London). Proofs and trial impressions of English stamps.

M. P. Castle (Brighton). The unique collection of Saxony which includes the block of four $\frac{1}{2}$ ng in the color of the 2g, with a grand lot of the 3pf of 1850, used and unused, and the whole 1851 issue by pages in mint condition.

E. A. Clark (Aberdeen). British Guiana 1852-6, in singles, pairs and

strips. Newfoundland, orange vermillion. Labuan, 6 in red on 16 blue. Barbados, 1d on 5s. British East Africa, ½ on 2 signed A. D.

Dum Dum (Calcutta). Post Office book showing early postmarks.

G. A. Coombs (Bath). A fine collection of triangular Capes.

E. Heginbottom (Rochdale). Barbados; Virgin Islands used, complete; St. Vincent 5s star (used), ½d on half 6d, 1d on 6d; Lagos 1865, 2s 6p, 5s, 10s, all used; collections of Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Gambia.

R. Hollick (Birmingham). African Colonies, including a nice lot of "Post Paid" Mauritius in all stages of the plate, Cape wood blocks and many other rare stamps; sheets of Indian native states.

G. F. Jackson (Birmingham). The complete and rare collection of Spanish stamps which was awarded the silver medal of the L. P. Exhibition.

G. Johnson (Birmingham). Hawaiian Islands 1862-94, including errors of surcharge; reconstructed sheets of English.

C. F. Larmour (Calcutta). Complete sheets of Indian with margins uncut, including ½a, 1a and 2a of first issue.

H. Loveridge (Wolverhampton). Complete collection of Tasmania, including reconstructed sheets of Plates 1 and 2 of the first issue 4d.

H. F. Lowe (London). A fine collection of Ceylon, including 4d and 8d imperf. on originals; 2d deep green C. C.; 25c on 32c perf. 14x12½; also a grand collection of St. Helena, including the error of 1863, 6d without surcharge.

G. Mackey (Birmingham). Block of 12 1d black Royal Reprint; block of 11 L. C. imperf.; block of 84 Prince Consort essay; block of 84 2d blue no lines.

J. A. Margonkis (Birmingham). An artistically arranged frame of colonials, mostly unused but including 4d and 8d imperf. Ceylon used.

W. Pimm (Birmingham). Fine collections of Canada, St. Lucia, St. Christopher and Tobago, used and unused.

J. E. Sparrow (Aberystwyth). A fine display of triangular Capes of all values, in mint condition, in large blocks as well as in singles, pairs, etc.

Major Stockdale (Plymouth). A very good collection of French and French Colonies.

C. F. Tanner (Birmingham). A good lot of unused colonials and U. S. A.; the Ceylons, Victoria, St. Lucia, St. Vincent were especially good.

Mrs. Tebay (London). A good collection of Uganda.

Miss J. Weston (Bournemouth). St. Vincent nearly complete, making up a very nice collection.

F. E. Wilson (Birmingham). Good collections of Austria and Belgium.

W. T. Wilson (Birmingham). One case of stamps on original covers, and two cases of rare stamps, including fine copies used and unused of the following:—N. S. W. "Sydney's" all values; British Guiana, early issues; British Honduras, early issues; Buenos Aires; India provisionals; British Colombia and Vancouver Island; Canada, pence issues; Nova Scotia four 1s, and a good number of other values; New Brunswick three 1s; Nevis Western Australia; etc.

On the Thursday and Friday during the Exhibition, Mr. H. W. Plumridge held a very successful auction sale at the Grand Hotel. Many of the prices obtained were very satisfactory, and only some half dozen, out of 500 lots, were unsold.





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The Album contains 100 leaves, or 200 pages, and is printed on only one side of the paper. The prices are as follows:

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JANUARY BARGAINS.

United States, 1898, Revenue, \$5.00 surcharged on Periodical Stamp, \$3.50	
*Canada, Imperial Penny Union stamp, 2c,	.04
Ceylon, Service, 2, 3, 5, 15, 25, 30c,	.40
*China, 1898, London Print, 4c,	.06
* " " " 30c,	.30
* " " " 50c,	.50
" 1898, ½, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10c,	.25
Ecuador, 1896, Jubilee Issue, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c, 1s,	.50
*Fernando, Po., 1896, ½c,	.15
* " " 2c,	.25
* " " 5c,	.30
* " 1898, 5c on ½c,	.75
*German Empire, 1880, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf,	the set, 1.00
*Guatemala, 1898, 1c on Revenue,	.05
* " " 2c on 10c Revenue,	.20
* " " 2c on 25c Revenue,	.10
* " " 2c on 50c Revenue,	.25
* " " 6c on 1 peso Revenue,	.25
* " " 6c on 5 pesos Revenue,	.40
* " " 6c on 10 pesos Revenue,	.40
*Hayti, 1898, Unpaid Letter, 2, 5, 10, 50c,	the set, .90
*India, ½a on ½a,	.02
Labuan, 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c,	the set, .65
" 1896, 25, 50c, \$1.00,	" 1.15
*Mexico, 1898, no watermark, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10c,	" .30
* " " " 12, 15, 20, 50c,	" 1.00
*Newfoundland, 1898, 2c vermilion red,	.04
*Niger Coast, 1898, 6p,	.25
* " 1898, 2s 6p,	1.15
* " 1898, 10s,	4.25
*North Borneo, 1886, ½, 1, 2, 4, 8, 10c,	the set, 1.50
" 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c,	" .65
*Nyassa, surcharged on 1894 issue of Mozambique, 2½, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 150, 200, 300r,	the set, 3.00
*Porto Rico, Habilitado, 1m on 1m lilac brown,	.03
* " " 2m on 2m yellow green,	.05
* " " 4m on 4m blue green,	.05
* " " 1c on 1c claret,	.10
* " " 4c on 4c brown,	.25
* " " 20c on 20c slate,	.50
*Uruguay, ½c on 1c Jubilee,	.05
* " ½c on 2c blue,	.05
* " 5 milesimos,	.02
*Wurtemberg, 5 marks,	1.75